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Sr. John Eden Bart.

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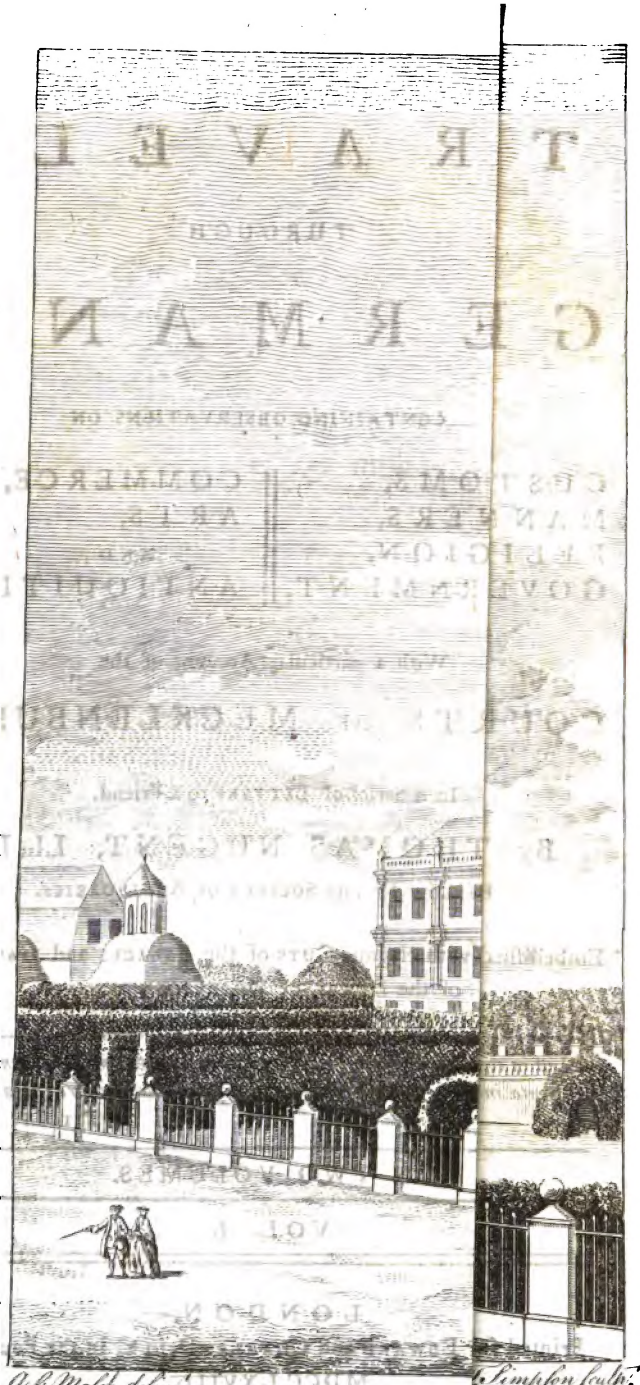

A. G. Masch delin. — Simpson sculp.

TRAVELS

THROUGH

GERMANY.

CONTAINING OBSERVATIONS ON

CUSTOMS,	COMMERCE,
MANNERS,	ARTS,
RELIGION,	AND
GOVERNMENT,	ANTIQUITIES.

With a particular Account of the

COURTS OF MECKLENBURG.

In a Series of LETTERS to a Friend,

By THOMAS NUGENT, LL.D.
FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

Embellished with elegant CUTS of the PALACES and GARDENS of the DUKES of MECKLENBURG.

Illud est in cognitione regionum salubre ac fructiferum omnis te exempli documenta intueri; indeque tibi, tuæque patriæ, quod imitare capias.
TIT. LIV. init.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

LONDON,
Printed for EDWARD and CHARLES DILLY, in the Poultry.
MDCCLXVIII.

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TO HER GRACE

ELIZABETH,

DUCHESS OF NORTHUMBERLAND:

IN HER OWN RIGHT

BARONESS PERCY, LUCY, POYNINGS, FITZ-PAYNE, BRYAN, AND LATIMER.

MADAM,

YOUR Grace's taſte for travelling, as well as for every elegant refinement of life, encourages me to hope, that the following ſheets will be ſo fortunate as to attract your eye, in the ſilent retirement of ſome vacant hour. They contain the deſcription of a country dear to every Briton, and

dear particularly to your Grace, for being the birth-place of a great Princeſs, whoſe eminent virtues adorn the throne of theſe realms, and captivate the affections of a brave and loyal people. They contain the out-lines of courts not unworthy of your curioſity; where, amidſt all the ſplendid embelliſhments of ſociety, truth, honour, and ſincerity, are ſtill the prevailing principles of a numerous and ancient nobility. And here a way fairly opens itſelf before me, to draw a parallel between the auguſt theatre where your Grace acts ſo ſhining a part, and thoſe foreign courts, whoſe characters I have been ſo happy as to obſerve and admire. But the taſk is too arduous. Were I to attempt to deſcribe the ornaments of the Britiſh court, I might place your Grace in the

foremoſt

foremoſt rank, and expatiate on the paſt glories of your renowned anceſtors, whoſe virtues, as well as large poſſeſſions, you happily inherit. I might endeavour to paint thoſe conjugal perfections which endear you to your truly noble and generous conſort, and render you a complete model of domeſtic felicity: I might extol your ſplendor and magnificence, by which you ſupport the dignity and name of the Great PERCIES: I might delineate your goodneſs, your affability, your generoſity, your ——. But the conſideration of your delicacy ſtops my pen; and I am apprehenſive of offending, when I only mean to court your patronage. My ambition is ſatisfied; the ambition of ſheltering theſe papers under your auſpicious name, and of being

per-

DEDICATION.

permitted, thus publicly, to declare the profound veneration and eſteem, with which I have the honour to ſubſcribe myſelf,

MADAM,

YOUR GRACE'S

MOST HUMBLE,

MOST DEVOTED, AND

MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,

THO. NUGENT.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following letters were committed to the preſs, exactly in their native ſimplicity. This, perhaps, has occaſioned a few repetitions, and a recital of particulars, which may appear unintereſting to ſome readers. The author, however, on ſubmitting them to public view, did not chuſe to make any alteration in their dreſs: this would have too much the appearance of art; and letters to a friend, ſuch as theſe, ſhould diſcover none. They are the effuſions of a heart warmed with ſentiments of affection. The taſte of readers is various; and what appears minute and trifling to many, is to others, at leaſt, a matter of entertainment. The author's deſign in going abroad, was to improve his Hiſtory of Vandalia, by inveſtigating things at the fountain-head. This has induced him carefully to ſtudy the various ſcenes of life, and the humours and characters of men, from the prince to the cotager; agreeably to the words of a very ingenious female traveller *, *Pour connoitre au vrai les mœurs des païs, nous examinons les cabanes.* If we view things in a philoſophic light, are not the occupations of the farmer, the gardener, and the artificer, as inſtructive and intereſting a ſubject, as plays,

* Madam de Boecage.

operas,

operas, and other faſhionable entertainments? Theſe the author, however, has not omitted, when they came in his way, merely in compliance with the prevailing taſte. A traveller generally makes himſelf the hero of his piece, by reciting his hardſhips and ſufferings, ὃς μαλα πολλα πλαγχθη: the author has followed the example of his predeceſſors; and if this has ſometimes rendered him too perſonal, he humbly hopes for the reader's indulgence. Though no poet, he is an admirer of the Muſes, and has been naturally led to interſperſe theſe Letters with ſeveral paſſages from our beſt writers, which helped to ſooth ſome toilſome ſcenes, and, perhaps, will contribute to enliven the narration. This is all he thinks proper to mention by way of apology; the neceſſity of any farther preface is ſuperſeded by the beginning of the firſt letter.

P. S. Since the author's departure from Strelitz, he has received the melancholy news, that Madam de Dewitz and Mademoiſelle de Rauchbar are no more. The latter was ripe for her diſſolution; but the incomparable Madam de Dewitz was ſnatched away in the bloom of youth, to the inexpreſſible grief of all who had the happineſs of knowing her. Among the reſt the author pays his ſincere tribute of tears to her revered and much lamented manes.

LETTER I.

Hamburg, Auguſt 21, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

LITTLE did I imagine, when firſt I undertook to write the hiſtory of Mecklenburg, that this attempt would be productive of a tour to Germany; and conſequently expoſe me to a ſeries of difficulties and perils: but ſo it ſeems to have been decreed: from a cauſe ſo very remote, by a ſtrange combination of circumſtances, an event has happened, which even at this time fills my own mind with amazement. You may remember, that upon a review of my materials for the ſecond volume of the Hiſtory of Vandalia, I found them a great deal too ſcanty and defective; and from that time, I

became ſenſible of the propriety, or rather expediency, of undertaking a journey to Mecklenburg, in order to explore new ſources, and to carry on my inquiries at the fountain-head. *Purius ex ipſo fonte bibuntur aquæ.* I flattered myſelf, from the connexions I had already formed abroad, that upon my arrival in that country, the public archives and records would be open to me; and that I ſhould, moreover, have frequent opportunities of conferring with the literati, and thereby acquiring ſuch intelligence as might enable me to diſpel the clouds of conjecture and fiction, and to fill up the ſpaces that I found vacant in ſome periods of my hiſtory. At the ſame time, I pleaſed myſelf with the idea of attaining a more accurate knowledge of the topography of that dutchy; as alſo of the cuſtoms and manners of the inhabitants, from my own obſervation and experience, and of rectifying any miſtakes I might have committed in the deſcription of a province which I had never viſited, and concerning which my materials ſometimes afforded me but a very imperfect and glimmering light.

This expedition, I muſt own, at the ſame time flattered my vanity, to think that I was conforming, in ſome meaſure, to the practice of the ancients, whoſe earlieſt writings, and particularly their hiſtories, conſiſt chiefly of the relations of thoſe who attained their knowledge by foreign travel: and perhaps, upon a ſtrict

ſtrict examination, you will find, that among the hiſtorical relations of moſt countries, the greater part have been compoſed by foreigners. I ſhould tire you with quotations (and this is not a place for ſuch pedantry) were I to enter into a proof of this aſſertion; beſides, you are too well acquainted with antiquity, to need any authority in ſupport of the argument. I ſhall only take notice to you, that one of the greateſt men of the laſt century, in a letter to a friend, concerning his manner of entering upon the ſtudy of the Roman hiſtory, adviſes him to peruſe the Greek hiſtorians of that powerful ſtate, in preference to the Latin; and the reaſon he aſſigns, is, that foreigners are infinitely more diligent in obſerving the manners, cuſtoms, laws, and ceremonies, of a diſtant nation, than the natives of the country.

Yet in acquainting you with the motive of my travels, I muſt be ingenuous, and not impute them intirely to the deſire of inſtruction and knowledge. I have not the ambition of being ranked among the number of thoſe great men, the Pythagoras's, the Solons, the Plato's, who travelled into remote parts in purſuit of ſcience; and after a ſeries of toilſome inquiries, enriched themſelves with the ſpoils of philoſophy, and the polite arts, by a frequent converſation with the ſages, and the ingenious artiſts of foreign nations. The conſideration of my health was a collateral inducement to em-

bark in this hazardous voyage. You know I had contracted a diſorder in my ſtomach, by a too cloſe application, and by a ſedentary life. I was likewiſe troubled with rheumatic pains, from frequent colds, the conſequence of not expoſing myſelf ſufficiently to the open air. A ſea-voyage I hoped would be of great relief to me under theſe complaints; and indeed the event has already anſwered my moſt ſanguine expectations.

I remember I promiſed you, at my departure, to write to you from time to time, and to give you ſuch accounts of my travels as might ſerve at leaſt as a mark of my friendſhip for you, if not contribute to your amuſement. I intend to keep my word; if I ſhould prove troubleſome, blame yourſelf, as the correſpondence is eſtabliſhed at your own deſire, or rather command, to comply with which I think it my duty. I cannot ſay how far you will be entertained, or whether you will be at all entertained with the account of my itinerary; but as I know that truth is your chief aim in reading, you may depend upon my conforming to it with the utmoſt exactneſs; and whatever may be wanting in the importance of the ſubject, will be compenſated, I hope, by the fidelity of my intelligence. I ſhall furniſh you with little more than facts, either falling within my own obſervation and knowledge, or ſuch as I know to be properly atteſted. I

ſhall

ſhall endeavour to be acquainted with the cuſtoms and manners of the people; as well as to ſurvey the country, and to take an exact notice of its principal curioſities. The latter are generally the object of travellers; but the former are more worthy of their obſervation, as having a greater tendency to improve their manners, to remove the narrow prejudices of education, and to fill their minds with more generous and manly conceptions.

I ſet out from London on Thurſday Morning, Auguſt 7, 1766, in company with my friend M. D. who was deſirous of ſeeing the city of Hamburg. We reached Graveſend that ſame day, and there waited till Saturday in the afternoon for the arrival of a Hamburg ſhip, having agreed with the captain at London, for our paſſage. Sunday in the afternoon we fell down the river, the weather exceeding fine, but the wind contrary; ſo that we were obliged to tide it to Oaſley bay near Orford Neſs, where we arrived on Tueſday about eight in the evening, and caſt anchor. There we lay in expectation of a fair wind till Thurſday Morning, when a weſterly breeze ſpringing up between three and four, our captain weighed anchor, and we ſoon came within ſight of Leoſtoff, the laſt point of land on that coaſt; then leaving it at ſome diſtance on the left, we ſtood off to ſea, and loſt ſight of the Engliſh ſhore about

two in the afternoon, the 14th of Auguſt. The diſtance from Orford Neſs to the firſt land on the German coaſt is 336 Engliſh miles. From Thurſday the 14th, till Sunday the 17th, the wind proved variable. But early the 17th in the morning it blew full north; when we began to make a conſiderable progreſs, and between five and ſix in the evening, we eſpied Heilegeland, to my inexpreſſible ſatisfaction, who had not endured ſuch long confinement at ſea for many years, ſo that I could not forbear crying out, *Italiam, Italiam.* The pleaſure a perſon feels on the ſight of land, after a tedious navigation (and this was really ſuch) brings to my mind theſe fine lines of Taſſo, with which you have been ſo often charmed.

Coſi di naviganti audace ſtuolo,
Che muova a ricer car eſtranio lido,
Ed in mar dubbioſo ſotto ignoto polo
Pruovi l'onde fallaci, e'l vento infido,
S'al fin diſcuopre il deſiato ſuolo,
Il ſaluta da lungi in lieto grido,
E l' uno a l' altro il moſtra, ed in tanto oblia
La noja e'l mal della paſſata via.

To ſailors thus, who wand'ring on the main,
Have long explor'd ſome diſtant coaſts in vain,
In ſeas unknown and foreign regions loſt,
By ſtormy winds and faithleſs billows toſt;

If

If chance at length th' expected land appear,
With joyful ſhouts they hail it from a-far;
They point with rapture to the wiſh'd-for ſhore,
And dream of former toils and fears no more *.

In the courſe of this voyage ſcarce any thing happened worthy of particular notice, and yet I ſhall mention a few trifles, for want of matters of more importance. Though my friend and I had agreed to pay a very good price for our paſſage, and were to be ſupplied with freſh proviſions, we fared extremely ill the whole voyage. Our governor fed us chiefly with eggs, ſtewed cabbage, ſtock-fiſh, kidney beans and bacon without end, and hung beef as ſalt as brine. It is true we had a little mutton on board, which the captain had bought at Graveſend; but it ſoon began to putrify; and I leave you to judge whether my friend or I had any ſtomach to reliſh it. In order to preſerve this ſame mutton, the ſailors hung it up in the ſun, and waſhed it frequently with ſalt-water, which gave it a moſt diſagreeable taſte. We had two Ruſſian paſſengers on board, who did not ſeem to diſlike this homely kind of fare; but they took care to ſtifle the diſagreeable effects of it, by an inceſſant fumigation of tobacco, and a moſt copious potation of ſpirituous liquors.

* Hoole's tranſlation of Taſſo, lib. iii.

There happened, however, a circumſtance, which ſomewhat alleviated our diſtreſs: The weather being remarkably fine, the ſailors and ſome poor paſſengers in the hold amuſed themſelves every day with catching of mackerel. My friend and I gave them money to encourage them; and the fruit of their induſtry proved the chief article of our ſuſtenance the beſt part of the voyage. They continued very ſucceſsful in their fiſhery, till we approached near Heilegeland; and a conſiderable quantity of the mackerel were ſalted and dried in the ſun, in order to be carried to Hamburg, where they are reckoned an exquiſite ragout.

Among other nuiſances we met with, there was a hog on deck, which gave us frequent diſturbance by the roughneſs and indelicacy of his muſic; my friend and I, however, comforted ourſelves with the notion that this complaint would ſoon be at an end, fondly imagining that the animal was deſtined for our table in the courſe of the voyage. But, upon enquiry, we found ourſelves miſtaken; the captain, being an excellent œconomiſt, was uſed to train up thoſe filthy brutes in his veſſel, in order to fatten them with the waſh, and afterwards ſell them for the Hamburg market.

I do not mention theſe particulars as a mark of any great hardſhip I ſuſtained, for I thank heaven I can accommodate myſelf to the inconveniencies of travelling with as much philoſophy

ſophy as moſt people; but I could not help taking notice of ſuch behaviour, as a moſt flagrant inſtance of impoſition in the captain. This may ſerve as a caution to you or any of your friends, who ſhould happen hereafter to embark on board one of theſe veſſels, always to lay in a ſtock of freſh proviſions, otherwiſe they may depend on very hard treatment. And yet this impoſing fellow was the greateſt pretender to religion imaginable; his men were called up twice a day, morning and evening, to prayers; when they all joined in hymns and pious canticles with the utmoſt fervency and devotion. This I do not mention to the diſpraiſe of the common mariners, for their behaviour was in every reſpect anſwerable to their profeſſions of religion; and during the whole voyage, I obſerved nothing that could be objected to their conduct. I muſt except one thing, which gave offence, namely, their ſmoaking continually under deck, and knocking their pipes out in the midſt of combuſtible matter, which made me often apprehenſive they would ſet fire to the veſſel. But the poor men had the captain's example to encourage them in this laudable practice: I have ſeen this fellow frequently lie down to ſleep with a lighted pipe in his mouth; when, alarmed with the ſenſe of danger, I have watched him till he had ſmoked it out, and re-

ſigned

ſigned himſelf into the arms of Morpheus. This I have been informed, was not a particular inſtance with regard to our ſhip, but is the general practice of all the Hamburg traders. And for that very reaſon I would never venture on board one of them again, when there was a poſſibility of being accommodated with an Engliſh veſſel.

But I beg your pardon for dwelling ſo long on trifles: I return now to Heilegeland, that wiſhed-for object, which, as I mentioned already, we came in ſight of on Sunday the 17th, between five and ſix in the evening. My friend and I were now in high ſpirits, expecting to enter the Elbe that night, and to land at Hamburg the day following. We might eaſily have reached Heilegeland before night, the wind was fair, and the weather moſt propitious: but our captain, after ſome conſultation, declined entering the river in the dark, alledging he had too valuable a cargo on board to expoſe himſelf to any unneceſſary riſks. He told us that the entrance of the Elbe, though ſo wide and ſpacious a river, was very dangerous, on account of the numerous rocks and banks on each ſide of the proper bed or channel, which is extremely narrow. He determined therefore to ſlacken ſail, and lye by till day-break; and then we might proceed without danger. For my part, I was ſorry to protract my ſtay any longer under

his

his dominion; yet what he alledged was very reaſonable, and proved to be well founded, though at that time we imputed it to his timidity. Between nine and ten we ſaw the light at the beacon on Heilegeland; and, after our uſual homely repaſt, we betook our-ſelves to reſt, pleaſed with the proſpect of being ſoon releaſed from our floating priſon.

My impatience to have a full view of Heilegeland, prevented me from enjoying peaceful ſlumbers; ſo that I roſe between two and three, when our captain was preparing to get under ſail; and by three we began once more to advance in our courſe, with a gentle breeze, which curled the ſmoothneſs of the glaſſy ocean. The ſcene was animating, and truly pictureſque; the gay morning ſmiled in the eaſtern ſky, and the ſun, juſt mounting the horizon, tinged the firmament with ruddy ſtreaks of fire, which diſcloſed to our view the lofty cliffs of this celebrated iſland. We did not go aſhore, but the enquiries I have made, enable me to give you a ſhort deſcription of it.

This iſland ſeems to be providentially ſituated for the navigation of the Elbe, from the mouth of which it is diſtant about twenty-four miles. In conſequence of the narrow channel of that river, and the badneſs of the coaſt, which is all a flat ſhore, the entrance would be very dangerous,

dangerous, if not impracticable, without ſuch a Pharos to direct the mariners. For this purpoſe the Hamburgers have built on the higheſt part of the iſland, a light-houſe, which is ſupplied with coals at their expence; with the permiſſion, however, of the king of Denmark, whom the iſland belongs. It is ſaid to have been formerly of a much larger extent; but by different inundations, the laſt of which was in 1649, the greateſt part of it was waſhed away. The ſmall ſpot remaining is divided into the upper iſland, called the Cliff, a ſolid reddiſh rock, riſing about fifty yards high, almoſt perpendicular out of the ſea; and the lower iſland termed the Downs: the circumference of the former is about nine hundred and forty rods, and that of the latter nearly the ſame. The upper iſland is a clayey ſoil, from two and a half to four feet in depth. It is tolerably fruitful, producing barley and oats, though not a ſufficient quantity for the inhabitants. There are but very few trees in this place, and no gardens, the natives being ſupplied with vegetables and fruits of all ſorts, at a cheap rate, from Hamburg. There is paſture on this part of the iſland for a few cows and ſheep, and three wells or ſprings of freſh water. On the higheſt part of the weſt ſide is the light-houſe.

From the higher to the lower iſland, they have made an eaſy deſcent by a pair of broad wooden

wooden ſtairs, fixed to the ſide of the rock, and containing one hundred and eighty ſteps. On the top of theſe ſtands the governor's houſe; and on the ridge of the rock is planted the artillery, which commands the haven. The lower land is defended by a mole, to prevent it from being intirely demoliſhed by the fury of the ocean. This part conſiſts of ſandy downs, and of a rocky ground, on which are fiſher-huts for about one fourth of the natives. But the better ſort live on the cliff, by reaſon of the high floods, which fill the lower part of theſe huts with water. Not many years ago, the downs were ſeparated from the reſt of the iſland, by a channel called the Waal, which, at high water, is of a ſufficient depth for veſſels of a tolerable burthen.

On theſe downs the inhabitants find a ſmall fiſh called Sands-pier, which is of immenſe uſe to them, as a bait for the catching of fiſh, from whence they draw their ſubſiſtence. The ſpecies of fiſh caught in this neighbourhood, (and for ſuch they have a very good market at Hamburg, and other towns on the Elbe,) are cod, haddock, whitings, mackerel, thorn-backs, with ling, and ſeveral kinds of flat-fiſh. The natives are expert pilots, being perfectly acquainted with the navigation of the Elbe, the Weſer, and the Eider. Merchant-ſhips bound to Hamburg, are obliged to take

in a pilot at this iſland; but we were already provided, having brought one with us from London. For it ſeems they think it worth their while to go over to England, on purpoſe for this employ, and take their turn in the Hamburg traders; they are very well paid for their trouble, but a deduction is made of one tenth part of their profit to the king of Denmark.

Theſe people are ſaid to be deſcended from the ancient Friſians, whoſe cuſtoms and manners they ſtill adhere to. They reckon about two thouſand inhabitants, all either pilots or fiſhermen. They are hardy and robuſt, though they eat but very little fleſh, living chiefly on fiſh, brown rye-bread, and a kind of gruel thickened with oat-meal. While the men are employed at ſea, the women are equally diligent and induſtrious on ſhore; for they dig and harrow the land, ſow, reap and threſh the corn, and grind it with hand-mills, there being neither plough, carriage, nor horſe on the whole iſland. The winter-provender for the cattle, and all their fuel, are brought hither from the continent.

The name of Heilegeland ſignifies the Holy Land, which it is ſaid to have taken from the worſhip paid here in ancient times to the goddeſs Foſta or Phoſeta, the ſame with the Veſta of the Romans: hence it was formerly known by the name of *Terra Sancta*, *ſacra inſula*, and Phoſs-

Phoſsland or Foſteland. But the behaviour of the inhabitants, if I am rightly informed, does not anſwer to the ſanctity of the name; ſince they are branded by their neighbours for avarice and extortion, and for the barbarous practice of plundering ſuch ſhips as happen to have the misfortune of being ſtranded on their iſland. The ſame charge is brought againſt the inhabitants of Jutland, where, from the badneſs of the coaſt, numbers of veſſels are frequently caſt away; for, under pretence of ſuccouring the diſtreſſed, the fiſhermen immediately ſurround them on all ſides, bore holes in their ſhips, and do them every other damage in their power. But inhumanities of this kind are not confined to Heilegeland or Jutland; you are ſenſible that in our own country the like, if not worſe, practices have prevailed till very lately; and that veſſels, unfortunately ſtranded on our coaſts, have been barbarouſly called a God-ſend, and ſeized as lawful plunder by our maritime banditti.

The proſpect of Heilegeland afforded us but a very fleeting ſatisfaction; for the wind beginning to freſhen, we ſkimmed along by the ſide of the iſland with great rapidity, ſo that we ſoon loſt ſight of it; and about ſix in the morning we reached the Red Buoy, a famous ſea-mark, near the mouth of the Elbe. To the left was the coaſt of Ditmarſh, belonging to Denmark,

Denmark, but it lay ſo low that we could not diſcern it; to the right was the dutchy of Bremen, where, at a great diſtance, we perceived ſome churches and the fort of Neuwerk. As I ſhall often have occaſion to mention the river Elbe, in the courſe of our correſpondence, it will not, perhaps, be diſagreeable to you, to have ſome account of its riſe and progreſs.

The Elbe, both by the Greeks and Latins called Albis, in the Bohemian language is termed Labe: It is one of the largeſt rivers in Europe, directing its courſe through the heart of Germany. It takes riſe on the borders of Sileſia, in the mountain called Rieſengebirge, and runs ſouth to Koningſgratz in the circle of that name; from thence it proceeds north-weſt till it receives the Muldaw at Melnick below Prague, and above Leutmeritz the Eger, which riſes in the mountain of Fichtelberg in Franconia. Leaving Bohemia it continues its courſe north, and paſſes through the dutchy of Saxony, viſiting Dreſden, Meiſſen, and Wittenburg; and receiving the Mulde not far from Deſſau, and the navigable Saale above Barby. From thence it ſhapes its courſe north-eaſt, through the circle of Lower Saxony, receiving the Havel near Havelberg, and the Ilmenau below Winſen; after which it parts the dutchy of Lunenburg from Mecklenburg; and then running between the dutchies of Bremen and Holſtein, divides

divides itſelf into many branches above and in the neighbourhood of Hamburg, where it forms ſeveral iſlands, and afterwards a very broad ſtream: paſſing on ſtill north weſt by the fortreſs of Gluckſtadt, it receives the deep and navigable Stor at Wewelsflet; below Brunſbuttel it grows ſtill wider, and at length loſes itſelf in the German ocean. This river is navigable for large ſhips higher than any other in Europe; veſſels of three or four hundred tuns coming up as far as Hamburg, which is ſeventy Engliſh miles from the ſea. For facilitating and ſecuring the navigation of the Elbe, the Hamburghers have taken the utmoſt precautions. The river being full of ſand-banks, and theſe often ſhifting by the force of the current, particular marks of the alterations or ſhiftings are neceſſary to point out the channel, in which there is a ſufficient depth of water for veſſels of burden, and to guard againſt running on the flats and ſhoals. For this reaſon there are conſtantly floating in the Elbe, a hundred large buoys, ſome white, others black, all ſtrengthened with iron hoops, terminating in a point, and moored with chains and ſtones. The fartheſt of theſe at the river's mouth, is, as I have already mentioned to you, diſtinguiſhed by the name of the red-buoy. For the ſecurity of veſſels entering the river, there is a company of pilots, ſubordinate to the court of admiralty at Hamburg; and they have two ſmall veſſels

or yachts, one of which is always ſtationed at the mouth of the Elbe.

And now as we are on the point of entering this fine river, give me leave to entertain you with a thought which aroſe in my mind on ſo agreeable an occaſion. The idea of ſailing with a proſperous gale into a river or haven, after eſcaping the perils of the wide ocean, is ſo pleaſing to mankind, that they generally make uſe of it as a metaphor to ſignify a retreat from danger, or a place of ſecurity and quiet, after being toſt and agitated by worldly viciſſitudes. *Inveni portum, ſpes & fortuna valete.* Yet this very agitation is neceſſary to reliſh the tranquility of the haven; and from what little I have obſerved of life, there is no enjoyment of eaſe, without inquietude: we reap our pleaſure from our pains; and, as the poet expreſſes it,

A conſtant feaſt quite palls the taſte,
And long enjoyment is diſtreſs.

In ſhort, we all feel, more or leſs, that there is no ſuch thing as a conſtant and uninterrupted ſatisfaction; the human mind, after obtaining its end, begins to grow tired and reſtleſs, till a freſh object of purſuit ariſes, and throws it into a new ſcene of anxiety. I felt a moſt exquiſite pleaſure on the ſight of Heiligeland; but I begin now to be ſenſible of an uneaſineſs,

which ſpurs me on to the dutchy of Mecklenburg.

Between ſix and ſeven in the morning we entered the Elbe, and at the white buoy, on the other ſide of the Fogel ſand, we took in a pilot out of the yatcht which always plies there for that purpoſe. We now began to diſcover land on the left, and about ſeven we paſſed by a ſmall fortification on the right, called the Neuwerk: this fort is ſituated on an iſland, and commands the entrance of the harbour; it is diſcernible at a great diſtance, and has alſo a light-houſe: there are ſeveral other beacons on that ſide, for the conveniency of ſhipping. At half an hour after eight, we came as high as Cuxhaven, where we made no ſtay, but left it on our right. This is a fine ſpacious harbour, of great conveniency to ſhips arriving here in winter, when the river is full of ice. The country hereabouts is called the bailiwick of Ritzbuttel, which has been long in poſſeſſion of the Hamburghers: they have a fort here with fourteen or fifteen hamlets; but at Cuxhaven there is only a public houſe for the accommodation of paſſengers. From this place to Hamburg they reckon fourteen German miles. Soon after we paſſed by the town of Gluckſtadt on the left, belonging to the king of Denmark, and by ſeveral iſlands, till we came to Belenbar, a ſmall village within two miles of the town of Stade, when the tide being ſpent, we were obliged to drop anchor about one in

the afternoon. My friend and I thought this a good opportunity of going on ſhore, and viſiting the towns of Gluckſtadt and Stade.

Gluckſtadt is ſituated in Daniſh Holſtein, and province of Stormar, on the north banks of the Elbe, at the confluence of that river and a rivulet called the Rhyn, about twenty-five Engliſh miles from Hamburg. The adjacent country is ſo hollow and marſhy, that they have raiſed a ſtone cauſeway near three-quarters of a German mile in length, from hence to the neighbouring town of Krempe. Some of the flat ground this way is lower than the Elbe at high water, and is agreeably diverſified with kitchen gardens, orchards, canals, and dykes, like Holland. It was built by Chriſtian IV. of Denmark, in the beginning of the ſeventeenth century*, who ordered it to be called the Fortunate (which the German name of Gluckſtadt imports) and favoured it with many privileges. The Daniſh kings have ſpared no pains to render this place as ſtrong as art can make it; the fortifications are regular; the ramparts planted with fine trees, the ditch very broad, and there are generally about two thouſand men in garriſon. The town has been ſeveral times beſieged, but never taken; ſo that it is reckoned impregnable. It is well watered by a variety of canals, one of which divides it into two parts. Gluck-

* In 1620.

ſtadt

ſtadt is prettily built, and has a very ſpacious market-place, at one corner of which ſtands the great church for the Lutheran worſhip; but Jews, Papiſts, and Calviniſts, are alſo tolerated. The harbour is ſmall, but very ſafe and convenient. Here a mole runs into the Elbe, with block-houſes, which command the channel of that river. Hence the Daniſh kings have attempted to make all ſhips pay toll here that aſcended the Elbe; but it is ſaid that the powers of Europe would not ſubmit to it: and yet they ſubmit to the toll exacted at Stade. Here are the ruins of a palace built by the abovementioned king Chriſtian IV.

In the neighbourhood of Gluckſtadt is a fort or priſon, where malefactors from ſeveral parts of the Daniſh dominions are obliged to atone for their crimes by hard labour. Some are condemned for life, and others for a limited time. This ſeems to have been borrowed from the Romans, who had their *damnati ad metalla*, or criminals condemned to work in the mines. The Danes have a proverb, That a dead man is good for nothing; and that it is much more adviſable to reap ſome benefit from malefactors, than to deprive them of life. Hence ſome are employed on the fortifications, others, as I have been told, on the high-roads, and others in cleanſing the ſtreets. Such a plan of puniſhing delinquents has been propoſed in England, as a more effectual method of preventing enormous

crimes, than tranſportation or hanging; yet it has been rejected, as inconſiſtent with the conſtitution of a free country. But why it ſhould be any objection among a free people, to deprive thoſe of their liberty, who by the laws of the land have forfeited their lives, is what I never could comprehend. The ſight of criminals employed in uſeful labour, is not ſo ſhocking as that of malefactors moving in proceſſion to Tyburn; and I make no doubt but it would be productive of a better effect, as it would imprint a greater terror on thoſe, whom idleneſs and averſion to labour generally prompt to vicious courſes.

At Gluckſtadt we croſſed the water, and proceeded to Stade, a town ſituated on the river Schwinge, in the dutchy of Bremen, by the weſt ſide of the Elbe, about twenty Engliſh miles from Hamburg. It is a place of very great antiquity, and ſaid to have taken its name from the Latin word *Statio*; the Romans being ſuppoſed to have had part of their fleet ſtationed here to guard the frontier. But this is certainly a miſtake, the Romans never had any fleet on the Elbe; nay, it is queſtioned by ſome, whether they ever paſſed that river. Tacitus,* indeed, takes notice, that Lucius Domitius croſſed the Elbe, and advanced farther into Germany than any Roman before him, but not a

* Annal. lib. iv. cap. 44.

word

word is mentioned of a fleet, or of any ſettlement on the northern banks of this river. *Poſt Albim*, ſays Cellarius, *incertiora omnia Romanis fuerunt.*

Stade had been formerly one of the Hanſe-towns, and afterwards became ſubject to the ſee of Bremen; but, by the treaty of Munſter, it was ceded, together with that ſee, to the crown of Sweden. In 1712 it was wreſted from the Swedes by the king of Denmark, who ſold it, together with the whole dutchy of Bremen, to king George I. as elector of Hanover. Since that time the fortifications have been repaired, ſo that it may be reckoned a place of conſiderable ſtrength. It is the ſeat of the regency of the dutchies of Bremen and Verden: as alſo of the chief court of juſtice, the chancery, and the conſiſtory or eccleſiaſtical court. There are three churches in the town, and a Latin ſchool, where formerly ſtood a convent of Auſtin friars. Stade, as I before obſerved, was once a place of conſiderable trade, and from 1586 to 1612, the Engliſh factory had their ſtaple here, which was afterwards removed to Hamburgh: but, notwithſtanding the conveniency of its ſituation at the junction of the two rivers (the Schwinge at the diſtance of a mile emptying itſelf into the Elbe) the trade of this place, by a concurrence of misfortunes, is greatly on the decline.

Between eight and nine the next morning, which was Tueſday the 19th, the tide beginning to ſerve, we weighed anchor, and arrived at Brunſhuſen at half an hour after ten. This is a fort at the mouth of the Schwinge, where our king, as elector of Hanover, has a conſiderable toll; all ſhips that come up the Elbe being obliged to ſtop here, and give an account of their lading; for which they pay a very ſmall duty at Hamburg, to an officer appointed by the government of Hanover. Several writers pretend, that the Hamburghers are not obliged to ſtop at this place, having been exempted from the duty, on account of their being at the charge of the buoys on the river, and of keeping the light-houſe on Heilegeland. But this, I aſſure you, is a miſtake; for our ſhip, though a Hamburgher, was under a neceſſity of ſtopping, and the captain ſent two of his men on ſhore, with an account of the lading. Another error of many writers is, that an Engliſh man of war of twenty-four guns rides at anchor on the Elbe, at the entrance into the Schwinge, to compel all ſhips to bring to: there is no ſuch ſhip to be ſeen in thoſe quarters; neither is it neceſſary, the fort being planted with a certain number of cannon, which command the channel of the river.

Upon the return of our men on board, we proceeded on our courſe, and paſſing by ſeveral little iſlands, with little more wind than enough

to

to ſtem the tide, we arrived at Blanckeneſe, a fiſhing town, where carriages ferry over in their way from Hamburg to Bremen. Here we had a fine proſpect of the former city, which with its lofty ſpires made a grand and moſt noble appearance. From hence we advanced but very ſlowly, and did not reach Hamburg till four in the afternoon. The proſpect of Altena toward the water-ſide was quite pictureſque; the banks of the river being very lofty, and adorned the whole way with houſes and gardens, which hanging on a declivity, looked quite romantic, and were productive of a moſt charming effect.

I believe I need not tell you, that we were all overjoyed to ſet our feet on ſhore at Hamburg, where we immediately betook ourſelves to our ſeveral quarters of refreſhment. It is now time to give you ſome reſpite, and to conclude this long and tireſome narrative. I would adviſe you, however, to take your revenge; and ſend me as long an account of what paſſes during my abſence in England. Let me hear from you as often as poſſible, for it will always be a ſatisfaction to me to know that abſence creates no coolneſs in your friendſhip, but that at ſo great a diſtance you continue ſtill to think of

Your ſincere friend, and humble ſervant, &c.

LET-

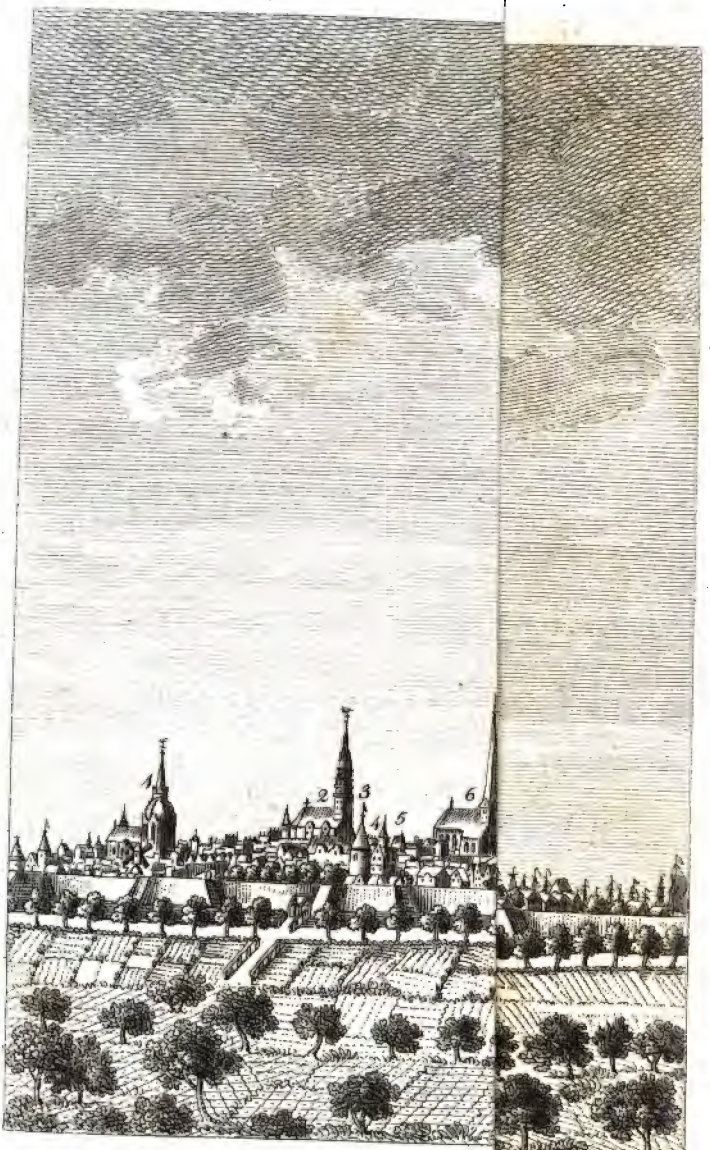
LETTER II.

Hamburg, Auguſt 31, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

SINCE I had the pleaſure of writing to you upon my landing in this country, I have been employed in a conſtant round of viſits and perambulations, in order to gain every information that might be of uſe to me in my principal deſign, and at the ſame time enable me to give you ſome account of this great city. The time has been very ſhort; but as I had been here ſome years ago, when I came by the way of Holland and Bremen, the intelligence then gained, added to my preſent inquiries, has in ſome meaſure qualified me for the taſk I have undertaken. The ſubject, indeed, is already exhauſted, and, conſidering the number of hiſtories of Hamburg that have been lately publiſhed, I ſhould rather have declined entering on ſo beaten a track, and confined myſelf to a few anecdotes of my own obſervation. But

ſince



1. St. Gertrude, ---------- Simpson del.t & sculp.t
2. St. James, ----------
3 the Blue Tower, ----------
4 The Custom House, ----------
5. The Wenser Tower, ----------
6. St. Peters, ----------
House, ----------

ſince you particularly inſiſt on my favouring you with a deſcription of this city, I ſhall obey your commands, hoping you will be ſo good as to excuſe me, ſhould I afford you no new matter of entertainment.

Hamburg is one of the largeſt, richeſt and moſt populous cities in Germany. It is pleaſantly ſituated on the river Elbe, in the circle of Lower Saxony, the dutchy of Holſtein, and province of Stormar, at the diſtance of about ſeventy miles from the German ocean. In its form it is almoſt circular, and near five miles in circumference; containing about 118,000 inhabitants. It is built partly on iſlands, and partly on the continent of the north ſide of the Elbe, which brings ſhips of burden into the very heart of the city. This river is divided two or three miles above the town, into two principal channels, called the north and ſouth Elbe, which, with ſome ſmaller channels, form ſeveral beautiful iſlands towards Harburg, all belonging to the elector of Hanover, and reunite in one ſtream about ſix miles below Hamburg. The ſouth banks of the river are bordered by the dutchy of Lunenburg, and lower down by the dutchies of Bremen and Verden. Towards the eaſt the city is waſhed by the little river Bil; and towards the north by a ſmall river called the Alſter, which forms a very large baſon juſt without the town, and another,

1000 feet ſquare within the walls; after which it turns the public mills, and paſſing by ſeveral ſluices and canals, through different parts of Hamburg, diſcharges itſelf into the Elbe.

This city is divided, by a canal, into the old and new town, which not long ago were ſeparated by a wall and a ditch; but the greater part of the wall is now levelled, and the ditch moſtly filled up. The ſeveral iſlands in the rivers Elbe and Alſter, on which the town is built, have a communication with each other by bridges; and the tide flows through the canals which ſeparate the iſlands; but the part called the Old Town lies ſo low, that the houſes are liable to be injured by high tides. The whole city is ſurrounded by a lofty wall, with out-works in the modern way, and a broad ditch of very great depth. There is alſo a noble line, with other works, extending from the largeſt baſon of the Alſter to the Elbe, about half a mile above the town; and on the other ſide of that baſon, about half way between that and the Elbe, below the town, is a very good fortification, to which they have given the name of *Sternſchantz*, or Star-fort. The ramparts are covered with graſs, and planted with rows of trees of ſuch height, that on the ſide of Altena none of the houſes can be diſcerned. They have a garriſon of about 2000 men, one troop of dragoons, the reſt infantry; a number too ſmall to defend

defend the place from a foreign attack, and of uſe only to preſerve the internal peace of the city. But their chief ſtrength conſiſts in the jealouſy of the neighbouring princes, whoſe intereſt it is to maintain the freedom and independency of this city.

Hamburg was founded in the beginning of the IXth century, that is in 808, when the emperor Charlemain ordered his eldeſt ſon Charles to erect two forts on the Elbe, with a view of repelling the incurſions of the Venedi, a Sclavonic nation, who were ſettled along the ſouthern coaſts of the Baltic. The command of thoſe forts he conferred on counts, who, from guarding the limits, were diſtinguiſhed by the name of marcgraves; *graff* in the German language ſignifying a count, and *marck* a frontier or limit. The fort on the north ſide of the river was called Hammenburg (whence by abbreviation Hamburg) or the caſtle near the wood, by reaſon of a thicket diſtant about a mile from the place where now ſtands the city of Hamburg. Here you are to obſerve, that *Hammen* in the ancient German, imports a little wood; and there is to this day a pleaſant village on the ſame ſpot, to which the inhabitants have given the name of Hamm. This is agreeable to the opinion of Chriſtopher Silvius, an ancient poet of Hamburg, who thus explains himſelf in the following verſes:

Hamburgum

Hamburgum ſilva cui notum nomen ab Hama,
Inter Billa tuos, & olorifer Alſtria ductus.

The firſt commander of the fort was one Odo, or Udo, the very perſon who built it, and by whom it was called Hochbuchi, or Hocheburg, the High Fort; the north banks of the Elbe being very ſteep in this neighbourhood. The place was taken and razed by the Wilzi, a tribe of the Venedi, two years after; but Charlemain ordered it to be rebuilt; and numbers of people reſorting to it as a place of ſecurity, it ſoon became a populous city. The ſame emperor erected the firſt church there in 811: his ſon Lewis the Debonnaire made it an archbiſhop's ſee in 833; but the ſee was afterwards tranſlated to Bremen. The firſt biſhop was S. Anſcharius, a Benedictine monk. This city has undergone a variety of revolutions. Upon the extinction of the Carlovingian line, it became ſubject to the dukes of Saxony, of whom it was afterwards held by the counts of Holſtein. Adolph III. in conſideration of a ſum of money, with which the Hamburghers furniſhed him upon his expedition to the Holy Land, favoured them with a great many privileges; and from thence we muſt date the firſt freedom of this city. Theſe privileges were confirmed by the emperor Barbaroſſa. But the citizens afterwards purchaſed their intire liberty of Albert of Orlamund, count of Holſtein,

for

for the ſum of fifteen hundred marks of ſilver; and it was confirmed to them by ſucceeding counts, as well as by Chriſtian I. king of Denmark, after the county of Holſtein had devolved to that crown. The Daniſh writers affirm, that notwithſtanding theſe privileges, the inhabitants of Hamburgh were ſtill bound to the counts and dukes of Holſtein by a certain covenant; and that they acknowledged a ſort of homage to the dukes of the Oldenburg line, which they paid to Chriſtian IV. king of Denmark*.

Hence the Daniſh kings have, on ſeveral occaſions, revived their claims to the ſovereignty of this city, which has frequently obliged the inhabitants to pay very large ſums for the confirmation of their liberties; yet Hamburg was declared a free imperial city in 1618; and was ſummoned to the diet of the empire in 1641. The continual alarms from the crown of Denmark, of which you may remember a late inſtance in 1762, oblige the magiſtrates to load the people with heavy taxes, for the maintenance of their garriſon, and other expences of government. The ſymbol or motto under their arms is, *Da pacem Domine in diebus noſtris*; and on their ſtandards are theſe letters S. P. Q. H.

The government of Hamburg reſides in the ſenate, and in the three colleges of burghers.

* 1603.

The

The ſenate only, who are choſen out of the principal perſons of the republic, have the right of aſſembling and diſſolving the body of the burghers, and are poſſeſſed of all the prerogatives of ſovereignty, except thoſe of levying taxes, and adminiſtering the revenue: the taxes are granted by the burghers, and the revenue is managed by ten of that body. The ſenate conſiſts of four burgomaſters, three of whom are civilians, and one a merchant, two preſiding alternately a year; twenty-four ſenators, eleven of whom are civilians, and thirteen merchants; four ſyndics acting as ſecretaries of ſtate, who are civilians, and give their opinions, but have no vote; and four ſecretaries or clerks, the chief of whom is called a prothonotary: all theſe are upon every vacancy choſen and ſupplied by themſelves; and the election comes on the very day after the funeral of the deceaſed. The office of a ſenator, though laborious, is not very profitable; they perform all the functions of public truſt, without any other reward than that of their ſalary as ſenator, which is inconſiderable, about two hundred pounds a year; but when they attain in their turn to the prætorſhip, they reap ſome advantage from the levying of the fines, while they continue in that office, which is two years.

There is ſcarce any difference between the dreſs of their clergy, and that of their ſenators; both

both wearing black gowns, much in the ſame faſhion, with deep heavy ruffs about their necks, plaited as thick as poſſible: but the ſenators gowns are ſaid to be very coſtly; they are made of velvet, and the inſide of them is notched; their hats are high-crowned, covered with black plaited velvet, and edged with black fringes.

For the trying of cauſes, civil and criminal, they have two courts, the lower and upper: the former conſiſts of the two prætors, one of whom goes out annually, and thirteen burghers, three civilians, and the reſt merchants, of whom a certain number are changed every year: the latter is the whole body of the ſenate. All cauſes, above two hundred marks*, are tried in the upper court; and if the ſum happens to amount to two thouſand marks, an appeal lies to the chamber of Wetzlar. The lower court takes cognizance of criminal cauſes; but the upper muſt confirm the ſentence.

The Hamburghers have alſo a court of admiralty, conſiſting of a burgo-maſter, four ſenators, ſix merchants, and two maſters of ſhips, aſſiſted by a water-bailiff and a ſecretary. They are governed by the civil law; and in criminal cauſes by the ſtatutes of the emperor Charles IV. with ſome of their own municipal regulations.

* About 13l. 10s.

The burghers are divided into three colleges, the chief elders, the college of ſixty, and that of one hundred and eighty. The firſt conſiſts of fifteen members, three choſen out of each of the five wards. This college is inveſted with great power; can demand of the ſenate to call a meeting of the burghers, and even impeach a ſenator. When the three colleges and the ſenate are aſſembled, which is upon all matters of importance, the gates of the town are ſhut, and a ſtrong guard is drawn up before the ſenate-houſe. In laying of taxes, fifty burghers of each of the five wards muſt be preſent, to conſtitute an aſſembly. The ſeveral wards debate ſeparately; and when the ſenate come to propoſe the queſtion, the majority of the five determine it. This renders their meetings very tumultuous, and the ſenators even in their public aſſemblies, are often liable to be treated with great inſolence and indignity by the burghers.

They have an excellent method of reconciling parties, and preventing law-ſuits, which is that of arbitration. The party who thinks himſelf aggrieved, whether plaintiff or defendant, has the liberty of applying to the ſenate for a commiſſion, and of propoſing two or three ſenators by name, to inquire into the nature of the diſpute, and to accommodate matters in the beſt manner poſſible. The adverſe party is obliged to appear before the commiſſion; and though

though both may reject the award, yet it is reckoned ſo diſhonourable a proceeding, that the inſtance is extremely rare.

The eſtabliſhed religion of Hamburg is the Lutheran, the public exerciſe of every other perſuaſion being prohibited, except in the chapels of foreign miniſters The ſenate is at the head of their eccleſiaſtical government, which conſiſts of a convocation of the paſtors, archdeacons, and deacons, in all twenty-nine, of the five principal and ſeven ſmaller churches or chapels; and this aſſembly they call the Miniſterium or Conſiſtory. The clergy are generally men of ſound learning, exemplary lives, and particularly remarkable for the eloquence of the pulpit. Hence their influence over the minds of the vulgar is very conſiderable.

Hamburg is divided into five wards, from the five principal churches. Beſides ſix gates to the land ſide, the town has three entrances by water; viz. two from the Elbe, and one from the Alſter. On the different canals the inhabitants have built eighty-four bridges; they have alſo the conveniency of thirty-eight water-mills, ſix windmills, ſix ſluices, and ſix large market-places. The buildings are generally of brick, and very high, ſeveral of them ſix or ſeven ſtory; they are well contrived for trade, the back part of moſt of the principal merchants houſes being ſo near the water-ſide, that their veſſels come to unload at their own doors;

and they are all furniſhed with cranes to raiſe their goods up to the warehouſes, which are generally in the upper part of the building. Several of them have warehouſes upon warehouſes, even to four, five, or ſix ſtory high; and it is a uſual thing to go into the upper ſtory to purchaſe a butt of wine, or a hogſhead of ſugar. But one very ſubſtantial reaſon for building their warehouſes ſo high, is the frequent inundations from the high floods, towards the beginning and at the cloſe of winter, which fill their cellars with water. Moſt of the ſtreets, eſpecially in the old town, are narrow and crooked. The pavement is alſo very rough and diſagreeable, and there is no raiſed footway for paſſengers. This expoſes them to the danger of being over-run by coaches, of which there is a conſiderable number. Several of the ſtreets are planted with rows of trees on each ſide, which renders them chearful and pleaſant.

If the merchants houſes are ſo convenient for trade, they are greatly deficient in point of neatneſs and elegance. They are conſtructed in a pyramidical form, like the Dutch houſes, gradually leſſening to the ſummit. The door is in the middle, very high, like our coach-houſe doors, and arched at the top. You generally aſcend by ſteps, and enter the houſe by a great hall, paved with flags, which ſerves for a magazine, and ſometimes for a coach-houſe. The hall is frequently adorned with

with wallnut-tree cupboards, of a prodigious ſize, which are uſed by the women as cloaths-preſſes. Moſt of their floors, even above ſtairs, are paved with flags: this occaſions a dampneſs, and muſt be attended with inconveniency in the winter. The inſide of their houſes conſiſts chiefly of bare white-waſhed walls, and the furniture is indifferent, being little more than a table and looking glaſs, with chairs of different ſorts. Neither their doors nor windows ſhut cloſe, their hinges and locks being miſerably made, and generally out of order. There is ſome elegance, indeed, in their ſtoves, with which almoſt every room is furniſhed, inſtead of grates; according to the German manner. They are generally built in a corner of the room, upon legs of about a foot and a half high, and are carried up to near the ceiling, all of blue and white tiles, adorned with mouldings, pillars, and other embelliſhments. A ſmall matter of wood or turf gives them a ſufficient heat, which they retain ſix or ſeven hours, and diffuſe equally throughout the room. You do not ſee the fire, for the wood is put into the ſtove through a hole the outſide of the room: they are convenient in the winter, eſpecially in this cold climate. Their beds are very high, as in Holland, but they make no uſe of blankets or bed-cloaths; lying between two feather-beds. This may be comfortable enough in winter, but is

intolerable in ſummer to thoſe who are not uſed to it. The weather has been very warm, ſince my arrival in Germany; ſo that I am content with my night-gown over the ſheets, knowing it would be impoſſible for me to ſleep, nay, that I ſhould run the danger of being ſmothered, under the incumbent weight of a feather-bed.

Their regulations in caſe of fire are excellent, and worthy of imitation. On the top of the higheſt churches they have two men who watch every night, in order to give an immediate alarm of fire; and he that firſt diſcovers it, is particularly rewarded by the magiſtrates. He gives the ſignal by ſounding a trumpet, when all the watch in the town inſtantly aſſemble, till the guards can be got to keep off the mob. Hence it ſeldom happens that a fire ſpreads beyond the houſe where it firſt commences.

Of the numerous public buildings in this city, the principal are the churches. With regard to theſe, I ſhall obſerve to you in general, that moſt of them are Gothic ſtructures, adorned with painting and ſculpture, much in the ſame manner as thoſe of the Roman catholics. The organs are alſo very fine, being of a prodigious ſize, and beautifully decorated; that in St. Catharine's church, I am told, conſiſts of ſix thouſand pipes. The ſteeples of the cathedral and four of the principal churches are very lofty; but

but they are only frames of timber, covered with copper, which is the reaſon, perhaps, of their being ſo often deſtroyed by lightning. But what is moſt extraordinary, and deſerving of cenſure, is, that moſt of the churches are thoroughfares, from morning till night; hence they are become places of rendezvous to all ſorts of people, and conſequently cannot avoid being dirty. Many of them are diſfigured with book-ſellers ſhops, ſo that they have more the appearance of an exchange, than of the houſe of God.

The dome or cathedral is not ſubject to the juriſdiction of the city, but under the immediate protection of the king of Great-Britain, as duke or biſhop of Bremen. It is a large venerable pile, adorned with a handſome ſpire, about three hundred and fifty-ſeven feet high. The inſide is far from being beautiful, but deſerves the notice of a traveller on account of ſome ancient tombs and inſcriptions. In the middle of the church is the tomb of John, count of Schaumburg, with a braſs plate over it, exhibiting a figure of that prince in armour, holding a ſword in his right hand; part of the monument is defaced, by what accident I could not learn. In this ſame church is the monument of pope Benedict V. who after being elected in oppoſition to Leo VIII. was brought priſoner to Hamburg, where he died in 966: the pope is

repreſented in his pontifical habit, on a braſs plate, with the following inſcription:

Benedictus, papa, qui de ſede apoſtolica per violentiam remotus, poſtea cum revocaretur, obiit Hamburghi. Anno Domini Dcccc. *quadrageſimo primo*, 4°. *nonas Iulii, et ſepultus eſt hic.*

The above monument has the appearance of antiquity, yet was erected ſince the Reformation, and is certainly an impoſture; for that ſame Benedict died in 965. In this church was alſo interred the celebrated hiſtorian Albertus Krantzius, to whom the public is ſo greatly indebted for illuſtrating the antiquities of Mecklenburg, Saxony, Norway, and Sweden: he died in this city, in the year 1517. But the moſt curious monument in the dome, is an ancient ſtone fixed in the ſouth wall, repreſenting an aſs playing on a bag-pipe, with ſeveral inſcriptions in monkiſh characters. The ſtone is an oblong, about five or ſix feet high, and three broad; on the top of it are the following words in Low German, which is the dialect of Hamburgh; but I will give you them only in Engliſh.

I firſt, thou afterwards: poor and miſerable I was born. Here is more got than loſt.

Near the aſs is repreſented a globe with a croſs upon it reverſed, and the inſcription,

The

The world is turned topſy-turvy; therefore I, poor aſs, have learned to pipe.

Underneath is repreſented a man ſitting in a flaſket, with this inſcription:

God be merciful to me, a poor ſinner.

And about the border of the whole are written the following words:

The Tueſday after Michaelmas, died the late Geſche Vanden Holten.

And farther,

Hans Lange for himſelf and his children.

As there is no date, it is impoſſible to determine the time of erecting this tomb; neither have we any account of the above-mentioned perſons. The legend-mongers tell us, that the above monument was erected to a ſpendthrift, whoſe friends having often warned him, that poverty would be the conſequence of his extravagance, he made anſwer, that it was as impoſſible for their predictions to be verified, as for an aſs to play on the bag-pipe; but, finding himſelf afterwards reduced to want, he looked one morning out of his window, and ſaw the ſtupid animal playing on that inſtrument.

Fortune

Fortune afterwards ſmiled upon him, ſo that he grew rich again, and proved a conſiderable benefactor to this church. The ſtone is very ancient, and the character appears to have been written in monkiſh times; yet the language is much the ſame as that which is ſtill ſpoken in this city.

The five principal churches, which give name to the five wards, are St. Peter, St. Nicholas, St. Catharine, St. James, and St. Michael.

The church of St. Peter ſtands on the berg or hill, in the higheſt part of the city. The time of its foundation is uncertain; but, by an inſcription at the ſouth entrance of the church, it appears that the tower, on which ſtands the loftieſt ſpire in Hamburg, was built in 1342. On the ſame ſide is a ſpacious charnel-houſe, and over the front of it, in a pediment, is exhibited an exquiſite painting of the reſurrection. In the choir is the emblematic altar, with two curious pieces of perſpective. On the ſouth ſide alſo is a well-carved image of the virgin Mary, with the infant Jeſus. The organ attracts the eye of a ſtranger, by the largeneſs and ſplendour of its pipes. The font is a fine piece of workmanſhip in marble. The dial is greatly admired, ſhewing, among other things, the increaſe and decreaſe of the moon. We ſaw ſeveral other curious pieces of painting and ſculpture, which it would be too tedious to enumerate; but that of Luther with the

the ſwan is deſerving of particular notice; under it is the following Latin verſe, which I cannot much commend for its elegance.

Peſtis eram vivus, moriens ero mors tua, papa.

The church of St. Nicholas is a ſpacious ſtructure, admired for its handſome ſteeple, which was built by Peter Marckhard; the ſpire reſts on golden balls of a prodigious ſize: the altar is reckoned a fine piece of workmanſhip. On the north ſide is a curious buſt of St. Jerom againſt a pillar, and a large proſpect of Hamburgh, as in 1552; with ſeveral hiſtorical pieces from the Old Teſtament. Here are alſo divers monuments of eminent men.

St. Catharine's is a ſtately edifice, likewiſe famed for its lofty ſteeple, which was built in 1698, by the ſame ingenious architect who erected that of St. Nicholas. The front of the tower, on which the ſteeple or ſpire has been raiſed, is adorned with a number of ſtatues in niches; and the ſteeple is broke into different lanthorns, one upon the other, with a gradual diminution, the laſt ſupporting a very high ſpire. The middle of the ſpire is encircled by a large crown, or rather open coronet, of copper gilt. The choir is remarkable for a beautiful altar: on the ſouth ſide I ſaw a great variety of ſepulchral inſcriptions, and ſome very old paintings, in water-colours. Over the

ſouth

ſouth door are ſome fine verſes on Jacob's viſion; and on the north ſide a good picture of the crucifixion. Near the chancel is a famous picture of the judgment of Solomon. On the third pillar on the north ſide I took notice of a very ancient and curious piece of carving, which repreſents the virgin Mary, with an angel ſitting by her, and a unicorn laying its head in his lap; underneath is a park, with a great number of hounds, who ſeem to be chacing the unicorn, which therefore has fled for refuge to the angel. But the moſt curious piece of painting in this, or any other church of Hamburg, is that of Chriſt's burial. I could not find the name of the artiſt, which indeed was the caſe in regard to many other carvings and paintings. The marble font is worth ſeeing, as alſo the organ, a noble piece of workmanſhip. On the north ſide are ſeveral hiſtory pieces of the ſcripture, done in water-colours. Over the ſouth door is repreſented the drowning of Pharoah in the Red-ſea; and on the oppoſite pillar is an excellent picture of the mocking of Chriſt. There are ſeveral other paintings and inſcriptions in this church, which deſerve a traveller's attention; but I only point out the principal.

The church of St. James, is a handſome edifice, adorned like the other three, with a very high ſteeple, which was erected in 1580. On the north ſide I ſaw ſeveral portraits of eminent

eminent men, as Martin Luther, &c. The chancel is elegant, and embelliſhed with marble figures. On the ſouth-eaſt, over the door, is a fine inſcription on the burial of Chriſt; and on the other pillar, to the ſouth, is another monument with ſome elegant figures. Farther on the ſouth ſide is a maſterly painting of Abraham offering up Iſaac. The marble font is reckoned curious, and the organ much admired. There are ſeveral other pieces of painting, with a great variety of monuments; and in every part of the church one meets with excellent aphoriſms, by a famous divine named Dr. Schuppius.

The church of St. Michael is by far the handſomeſt ſtructure in Hamburg, and the only large church in this city, that has been built ſince the Reformation. The firſt ſtone of it was laid in 1751, the 29th of June; the former church, which was alſo a modern building having been deſtroyed by lightning, on the 10th of March, 1750. It is not yet quite finiſhed, but is very large and beautiful, of a round form, and not ſo much crowded with ornaments as the other churches. The altar is curiouſly wrought, and the new organ quite magnificent. There are galleries of pews within ſide, after the manner of our churches in England. The building looks airy and lightſome, the font is elegantly wrought of marble, and the chancel much admired. The architect

chitect is M. John Godfrey Hildebrand, of Dreſden. They have not yet begun to erect the ſteeple; and it is queſtioned by ſome, whether, conſidering the frequent accidents by lightning, any ſuch ornament will be added.

The other leſſer churches contain little or nothing remarkable: their names are St. John, St. Mary Magdalen's, the old or little St. Michael's, the Holy Ghoſt, the chapel of the hoſpital for the orphans, St. George's without the walls, St. Gertrude's, and St. Paul's.

After we had ſeen the churches, we paid a viſit to the hoſpitals, of which there is a great number. The Hamburghers are very careful of their poor; which appears by their grand magazine, or granary for corn, from whence, in times of ſcarcity, this neceſſary article of life is retailed to the public, at a reaſonable price. They have a very large hoſpital for orphans, the yearly revenue of which amounts to between ſix and ſeven thouſand pounds. Sometimes there are above three hundred children abroad at nurſe, who at a proper age are taken into the houſe: the boys are put to trades, and the girls are ſent to ſervice. The building is not ſumptuous, but decent, and borders on one of the canals. They have alſo a large hoſpital, for the reception of poor infirm travellers; another for aged and diſabled ſeamen. Beſides theſe, they have many leſſer hoſpitals, for poor

widowers, and widows; with two houſes of correction, one called the Zucht-houſe, or houſe of diſcipline, and the other the Spinn-houſe. The former is a large building, erected in 1670, and adorned with a handſome chapel: it is properly a work-houſe, to employ poor people that have no ſettled habitation. The latter was built at the ſame time, and intended as a place of puniſhment for thieves and malefactors; the priſoners are all kept cloſe to ſpinning, and with a ſpare diet.

The other public ſtructures are no ways ſtriking, nor indeed anſwerable to the opulence and grandeur of the city. The Senate-houſe, or Guildhall, is an ancient irregular building, erected at different times; the principal part, in which is now the town-hall, is ſaid to have been built in the 13th century: that part where the ſenate meets, was built in 1601; that where the bank is, in 1648; to which they have lately added another for their new bank. At the other end is an ancient ſtructure, where the lower courts of juſtice hold their aſſemblies. The whole is rather commodious than beautiful; though the outſide of the building, as likewiſe the town-hall, is adorned with the ſtatues of emperors. In the upper apartments are held the aſſemblies of the colleges, and all the public offices of the cuſtoms, exciſe, admiralty, and other departments.

Oppoſite

Oppoſite the Senate-houſe ſtands the Exchange, a mean ſtructure, which ſeems to want repair. It is a large ſquare, one part planted with trees, and the other covered with a hall, where the council of commerce meets. This exchange is ſaid to have been built at three different times, in 1558, 1578, and 1669; but I could wiſh, for the honour of Hamburg, that it was pulled down, to make room for a magnificent, or at leaſt for a handſome ſtructure.

One of the public buildings beſt known to ſtrangers at Hamburg, is the Boom-houſe; ſo called from its ſituation near the booms: theſe are two large floating ſtages about ten yards aſunder, thrown a-croſs the river, and faſtened with a chain, to prevent any ſhips or craft from coming into the town after ſunſet. For that purpoſe a watch is poſted, and the keys are brought away by two ſoldiers, and delivered to the burgo-maſters every night. I could not find for what uſe this boom-houſe was firſt intended; it is now a tavern, where are retailed the greateſt variety of wines and malt liquors, eſpecially the latter, of any place in Hamburg. Above ſtairs, on the top of this building, is a very large room or hall, of the whole breadth, and almoſt the whole length of the houſe; moſt of their genteel weddings and public entertainments are kept in this place. It is a great gazebo, being all one window,

dow, from whence you have a pleaſant view of a fine fruitful country, of a rich populous city, and of a noble river covered with ſhips, whoſe maſts appear like a great foreſt, extending down below the town of Altena.

The ſituation of Hamburg, on ſo beautiful a river, commands an immenſe trade, as ſhips of no ſmall burthen can come up to the merchants doors to deliver and take in their lading. Thoſe indeed of the largeſt ſize, are obliged to caſt anchor four miles below the town, at a place called New Mills, and unlade their goods into ſmaller veſſels. The Elbe, and the many navigable rivers that fall into it, furniſh this town with all the products and manufactures of Auſtria, Bohemia, Upper and Lower Saxony: by the Havel and Spree, it has a communication with the electorate of Brandenburg; and by a canal from the Spree to the Oder, its commerce is extended to Sileſia, Moravia, and Poland. The chief commodities which it exports, are linens of ſeveral ſorts, particularly Sileſia diapers and lawns; Hamburg dowlas, and other ſtrong linen from Weſtphalia and Lower Saxony; linen yarn in great abundance, from Sileſia and Luſatia; tin-plates and wire of iron, braſs and ſteel, chiefly from Upper Saxony; clap boards, pipe and hogſhead-ſtaves, wainſcot boards, oak plank, and timber, with kid-ſkins in great quantities from Brandenburgh and

Saxony. Among the numerous articles of importation, I reckon chiefly the woolen manufactures of England; the value of thoſe ſent from Yorkſhire, is ſaid to amount to about 100000l. The number of Engliſh ſhips alone, which enter this harbour yearly, is upwards of two hundred; moſt of which come from Spain, Portugal, and Italy, and are freighted by the merchants of this city, as ſhips of quicker diſpatch than their own bulky veſſels. Yet they employ a great number of their own ſhips in the Greenland fiſhery, as alſo in the wine trade to France, and their commerce with England. They have twenty large ſhips, which make one voyage to London and back again every year; and as they ſail much cheaper than our Engliſh veſſels, ſcarce any other but Hamburghers are employed in this trade, except a few on account of goods, which, by our laws, are not importable in foreign bottoms. In ſhort, Hamburg may properly be ſtiled the ſtore-houſe of Germany, and a great part of the North, furniſhing them with all the neceſſaries, conveniencies, and ſuperfluities of the other parts of the globe.

The manufactures which they carry on themſelves, are, firſt, that of ſugar-baking, or refining; but they are obliged to have their muſcovado ſugars chiefly from Great Britain. You may judge of the importance of this manufacture, from the number of ſugar-bakers,

who are ſaid to be three hundred, and ſupply the greateſt part of Germany and the North. The ſecond is that of weaving velvets as well as damaſks and brocades, and other rich ſilks. The third is gold and ſilver lace. The fourth is that of knit ſtockings, in which they employ vaſt numbers of their poor. The fifth is callicoe-printing, which is become an immenſe manufacture. The ſixth is that of dying, an article in which they are great proficients. The Hamburghers have alſo a conſiderable ſhare in the whale-fiſhery of Greenland; and the fins and whale-bones which they draw from it, may be deemed as a manufacture wholly conducted by their own people.

Their cuſtom-houſe is a ſmall upper room in the Guildhall, where all the officers conſiſt of one of the ſenators (who ſerve alternately and gratis) and three clerks; the ſenator, as commiſſioner, takes the money and ſigns the cockets: theſe few officers, with two more in the nature of ſearchers, at the entrance of the harbour, do the whole buſineſs of the cuſtoms in ſo great and commercial a city. This is owing to the ſmallneſs of their duties, which gives little encouragement to ſmuggling, and conſequently prevents the neceſſity of a ſwarm of cuſtom-houſe officers. But the exciſe, or duty on inland conſumption, is laid pretty heavy, as in Holland, in order to lighten the

cuſtoms of imports and exports. They have no carts, or wheel-carriages, to draw their goods through the town, but make uſe of men for a drudgery, which every where elſe is performed by horſes. Theſe carriages are no more than a long pulley, laid upon an axle-tree, between two wheels; linked to which you will ſee a number of robuſt fellows, with ſlings croſs their ſhoulders, to draw a very trifling load. Theſe are the city porters, who form a kind of ſociety or company, and make great intereſt to be admitted as members. What ſhews the prejudice of cuſtom, is the Hamburghers ſtrenuouſly ſtanding up in defence of this manner of carrying goods, in preference to all others. The only plauſible argument in ſupport of it is the narrowneſs of the ſtreets, which indeed would render a multitude of carts extremely inconvenient.

The bank of Hamburg is one of the beſt and ſafeſt in Europe, being under the direction of four of the principal perſons of the city, nominated by the whole body of the republic. In caſe of any fraud or embezzlement, the ſtate is engaged to make good their deficiencies: and to prevent any ſuch malverſation, the officers are obliged to clear all accounts twice a week.

The Hamburghers keep their accounts in marks and ſchillings; ſixteen ſchillings to a mark: a ſchilling is worth a penny Engliſh. The coins current both here and at Lubeck, are

are in billon, a dreyling of three pfennings, or quarter of a ſchilling, called alſo a witte, worth one farthing: a ſechſling of ſix pfennings, worth a halfpenny: a ſchilling, worth, as I ſaid before, a penny; a two ſchillings, worth twopence: and a four ſchilling piece, worth fourpence ſterling. In ſilver; a half mark, or eight ſchillings, worth eight pence: a mark, or ſixteen ſchillings, worth ſixteen pence: a double mark, worth two ſhillings and eight pence: in Lubeck, they have alſo ſince 1752, a current dollar of three marks, worth near five ſhillings ſterling; and both have a bank or rixdollar, which paſſes for three marks nine ſchillings current. In gold; they have a ducat, current for ſeven marks, more or leſs, and a double ducat at fourteen marks. They have alſo great plenty of foreign gold, as Daniſh ducats, Holland ducats, French piſtoles, Brunſwick and Pruſſia piſtoles, and new French louidores, though the value of all or moſt of theſe varies according to the courſe of exchange. The bank money is generally about fifteen or ſixteen per cent. better than the current.

The Britiſh factory ſtill makes a conſiderable figure in Hamburg. This ſociety of merchant adventurers removed from Flanders to this city, and were poſſeſſed of very great privileges ſo long ago as the reign of queen Elizabeth. They had an excluſive privilege of importing cloth; but ſince king William's time that trade has

been open, which has greatly diminiſhed the ſplendor of the factory. They are incorporated into a company, conſiſting of thirteen members, a governor and deputy-governor. As they are exempted from the juriſdiction of the city courts, all diſputes among themſelves are determined by a plurality of voices; but conteſts with a burgher, require the preſence of two ſenators. Their judgments are ſummary and impartial, and on that account greatly reſpected by the burghers. For tranſacting their affairs, they have a handſome large building in the middle of the town, called the Engliſh Houſe, where they have apartments for their officers, with a neat chapel, and of a very good ſize. The chaplain is the Rev. Mr. Vaughan, a clergyman of great piety and learning, to whoſe civilities I am much indebted. The deputy-governor is Mr. Hanbury, a gentleman whoſe integrity, abilities and ſocial virtues, do honour to his country. I had the pleaſure of being entertained at his houſe with true Britiſh hoſpitality. At this ſeaſon he is moſtly at his country-ſeat, as are many of the other merchants. The factory have a pleaſant ſpot of ground for a bowling-green, ſituated near the new church of St. Michael, in a very good air, with a convenient houſe, ſurrounded with tall handſome trees, where they frequently meet for recreation and exer-

ciſe

ciſe. At the ſame place there is a regular weekly aſſembly, at which the gentlemen and ladies of Hamburg intermix with thoſe of the factory, and amuſe themſelves with chit-chat, cards and dancing.

There is a prodigious number of Jews in this city, who are allowed very great privileges in trade, but have no ſynagogue, being obliged to perform their religious worſhip in Altena. Their chief dealing ſeems to be in the exchange of money, which they carry on with indefatigable aſſiduity. As ſoon as a ſtranger ſets up at an inn, theſe children of Iſrael have notice of it from the hoſt, or the people of the houſe; and they are ſure to wait on him the next morning, before he is up, in order to offer their ſervice, and to defraud him as much as they can. What is intolerable, they will not take their anſwer, but, like ſturdy beggars, will torment you with their importunities. Nay, they ſometimes bolt into the room, without knocking at the door; a degree of inſolence to which I have often been witneſs.

But you are not from hence to form an idea of the manners of the Hamburghers. Inſtead of ſhocking you with rude behaviour, they are remarkable for their politeneſs, and inferior in no reſpect for amiable accompliſhments to the reſt of the Germans. To enable you therefore to judge of their character, I ſhall give you a

few obſervations, which I made ſome years ago, on the manners of this reſpectable nation.

The Germans are a tall, robuſt, people, differing very little from the Engliſh in ſize and complexion. The women, in particular, are very handſome. They are bred up with great reſerve, and behave moſt obſequiouſly to their huſbands. The nobility are perſons of great honour, and all their ſons inherit their father's title. The people, in general, are free, open, and ſincere, and diſtinguiſhable above all nations for their hoſpitality. This is the character they bore even in Julius Cæſar's time, who tells us that their houſes were open to all men; that they conſidered it as a baſe act to affront a traveller, and as a point of religion to protect thoſe who came under their roof. A ſingle letter of recommendation to a gentleman in any part of Germany, is ſufficient to procure the bearer an agreeable reception throughout the country. They are great lovers of good cheer, but not to that degree of exceſs as we ſuppoſe in England, where, I believe, there is more intemperance in drinking, than in Germany: and indeed, in polite companies, hard drinking is pretty much left off, except, as I have been informed, in the eccleſiaſtical electorates. Their entertainments are luxuri-

rious;

ous; for they think they never can ſhew too much civility to their gueſts. But their complaiſance is generally carried too far, which defeats the very end of it, and gives rather pain than pleaſure to thoſe whom they intend to honour.

They are fond of cheſs and billiards, eſpecially the latter; but hunting the wild-boar is the ſport chiefly followed by perſons of diſtinction. Their paſſion for travelling renders them affable, and complaiſant. Few nations ſurpaſs them in the mechanical arts. In philoſophy and polite literature they have acquired great reputation; and notwithſtanding the French charge them with want of vivacity, the productions of ſome of their late writers ſhew that they are not inferior to that vain people in fire and imagination. They are great encouragers of printing, and ſo curious after public news, that few towns or villages are without their gazette. They are alſo excellent engravers, and very good painters, eſpecially in miniature. In ſhort, learning is cultivated among them to ſuch a degree, that they have above thirty univerſities; and a German prince uſed to be proud of nothing ſo much as of the number of ſcholars in his dominions. But this is a mode now much upon the decline, and has been ſucceeded by a more barbarous taſte, that of priding themſelves in the number of regimented men,

men, trained to the art of ſlaughter and deſtruction.

Such are the manners of the Germans, from which you may form an idea of thoſe of the citizens of Hamburg. If there be any difference, it is that the common people here are not quite ſo civil as in other places, which perhaps is owing to their liberty, and the great ſhare they have in the government of this republic. Beſides, it has been long obſerved, that the vulgar in moſt trading cities, are deficient in politeneſs, and the reaſon is becauſe they are leſs held in ſubjection. But the better ſort of the inhabitants having travelled, are extremely complaiſant, and carry their imitation of the French nation in dreſs, outward ceremonies, and refined compliments, to a degree of extravagance.

The women of this city, in general, are comely, and of a fair complexion; but I cannot commend their fine ſhapes, nor their careleſs manner of going without ſtays. They are too indifferent about dreſs at home, and perhaps too fond of finery, eſpecially in the article of jewels, when they appear abroad. The inconveniency of this ill-judged pride is too often felt by their huſbands, whoſe trade is prejudiced by ſo much money lying dead in this uſeleſs ornament. They generally go veiled with black ſilk, like the ladies in Flanders, but not ſo as to hide their pretty faces. In going to church,

church, they are followed by a ſervant maid, who holds a prayer-book in one hand, and in the other a braſs ſtove with embers, in winter-time to warm her miſtreſs. This is alſo the faſhion in Holland, where ſtoves of a ſimilar kind are uſed by the women, wherever they go, greatly to the prejudice of their health, and the diminution of their beauty. The miſtreſſes of families in Hamburg are ſuch good houſewives, as not to be above putting a hand themſelves in the kitchen, whenever there happens to be occaſion; but they carry this part of domeſtic œconomy too far, as it is frequently the cauſe of their not coming to table till the ſecond courſe, with their faces, like the Red Lion of Brentford, half roaſted and burnt; and what is worſe, they often make their appearance in an undreſs.

Luxury is riſen to ſo high a pitch in this city, that there ſeems to be an abſolute neceſſity for a ſumptuary law to reſtrain it. In their feaſts and entertainments, they love to indulge their hoſpitable genius; ſhewing their regard for their gueſts, by a ſurprizing profuſion of diſhes, and the greateſt variety of wines. Their weddings and chriſtenings are moſt ſumptuous; and even their funerals, where human vanity ought naturally to terminate, generally partake of the ſame extravagance. But in the midſt of this magnificence of a mercantile

cantile republic, it requires no great penetration to ſee the ſeeds of its decline.

Coaches in Hamburg are ſo numerous, that there is ſcarce a merchant, or even a ſhopkeeper of any note, without his vehicle; though they are very inconvenient, from the crookedneſs and narrowneſs of the ſtreets. But what is extraordinary, they have no coach-houſes or ſtables, except in a few new built houſes. To ſupply this deficiency, the coach is drawn up ſtairs, by means of a crane or pulley in the middle of the hall; and the horſes are obliged to take up their quarters in the cellar. They have a great number of hackney coaches, but no ſtand for them in the ſtreets; ſo that they muſt be ordered ſome time before they are wanted: which is attended with great trouble, in caſe of any ſudden emergency. On the other hand, thoſe vehicles are much handſomer than ours in London, having glaſs windows, like gentlemen's coaches. Their fare is pretty reaſonable, for you can have them a whole day, for two dollars, in town, [a dollar is four ſhillings] and three dollars in the country. Yet to guard againſt the rain, almoſt all the men carry an umbrella in their hands, and the women have their paraſoles of ſilk to ſhade them from the ſun.

Though the merchants in general are men of great honour in their dealings, the ſhop-

keepers,

keepers, or retailers, do not bear the ſame character, but are charged, and I am afraid too juſtly, with impoſing on ſtrangers. This I know by experience, that you may generally give them one half of what they aſk. Another complaint againſt the ſhop-keepers is, the drink-gelt, or drink money, to their ſervants, who will not carry home the leaſt thing to their cuſtomer, though he lives, perhaps, in the ſame ſtreet, without importuning him for drink-money.

As Hamburg is overſtocked with moſt commodities, ſo it is with lawyers, and hardly a tenth part can be employed in the Senate, or at the bar. The poorer ſort of them uſed to be paid for walking in funeral proceſſions; but that cuſtom is now laid aſide. There are few or no beggars in the ſtreets, the magiſtrates taking care to employ the indigent that will work, in the manufacture of knit ſtockings; and to ſend ſuch as will not work, to the houſe of correction: the few incapable of labour are maintained by their reſpective pariſhes.

The police of this city, indeed, is admirable, eſpecially in what relates to the meaner ſort of inhabitants. Every rank or order have ſomething to diſtinguiſh them in their dreſs, and even the poorer people make a decent appearance. This is particularly obſervable in their ſervant-maids, who all wear the ſame kind of uniform habit,

habit, conſiſting of a petticoat and jacket of ſerge, on week-days; and of cloth or ſlight ſilk on Sundays; a linnen cap cloſe to their heads, and no farther than their ears, with an edging or border of muſlin, a linen or ſilk handkerchief; and they all wear black aprons. Their wages are ſmall, ſeldom above forty ſhillings a year; yet they are always decent and clean, and what is alſo remarkable, moſt of them are very handſome. To collect ſuch a number of pretty girls into one city, the whole circle of Lower Saxony muſt be ranſacked. When they happen to be debauched, which is ſaid to be frequently the caſe, they ſerve in the capacity of nurſes, and are generally preferred for that employ to married women: I obſerved the ſame practice formerly at Antwerp, and the reaſon given for the preference, in both cities is the ſame; that as the children of thoſe wenches are the offspring of love, the mother's milk muſt be moſt wholeſome.

There are few robberies and thefts ever heard of in Hamburg, and conſequently few executions. They have a cuſtom, never to put a malefactor to death, till the cauſe has been reviſed, and the ſentence confirmed, by ſome German univerſity. This, I apprehend, is to take off the odium from the magiſtrates, and to ſhew the equity of their proceedings. After ſentence, the priſoner, inſtead of being confined

to

to a dungeon, is lodged in a handſome room, and allowed all reaſonable indulgence in eating and drinking. From that time he is always attended by a clergyman, till he makes his exit. The torture is ſtill here in uſe; and for murder, or other atrocious crimes, they break the malefactor upon the wheel. The executioner's office is not ſo infamous as with us, and he has a genteel income, ariſing from his ſalary, and from ſeveral perquiſites.

No ſtews are allowed in Hamburg, no ſtreet-walkers or common harlots parading in public. Nay, ſuch is the ſeverity of their police, as to puniſh fornication and adultery with heavy fines; the former is ſaid to be fifty dollars, the latter double that ſum. The fine is levied on the male delinquent, upon the confeſſion of the female. But I do not find that any puniſhment is inflicted on the latter. The reaſon of this difference may be, that the magiſtrates ſuppoſe the weaker ſex to be generally betrayed into ſuch acts of incontinency by artifice and ſeduction. But the Hamburghers are indemnified for this reſtraint, by the liberties granted at Altena, which is over-run with ſtews, and may be juſtly ſtiled a ſink of iniquity and corruption.

Hamburg abounds with diverſions of different ſorts; for though the inhabitants are ſo eager in purſuit of trade, they are no enemies to

to pleaſure; nay, the latter ſeems to be the great end of their induſtry. They hunt after money, in order to enjoy life, and not for the ſake of being ſaid to die rich. Their higheſt enjoyment, in ſummer-time, is in giving entertainments at their gardens and country-houſes: but theſe entertainments are often attended with the ruin of merchants, by living above their condition, and neglecting their affairs in town, which are left to the management of ſervants. The beauty of theſe villas had been repreſented to my friend M. D. and me in brilliant colours, which made us deſirous of taking a view of ſome of thoſe moſt worthy of notice, ſeated chiefly in the territories of Hamburg, within two, three, or four miles of the city.

We hired a coach for the day, and ſet out for Wanſbeck, a pleaſant village, where a fair was held at that very time, which drew a vaſt concourſe of people. We got out of the croud as ſoon as poſſible, and went to ſee baron Schmalman's gardens: they had been greatly magnified to us in deſcription; but the truth is, they are not half finiſhed, ſo that no judgment can, as yet, be formed, of their beauty. We went into the houſe, which affords nonothing remarkable. From thence we drove to M. Voght's gardens, which are alſo cried up to the ſkies: they are laid out in walks and allies, with yew-trees cut in different forms on each

ſide

ſide of the walks; but it is all in the Dutch taſte, and without the leaſt reſemblance of nature. There are, beſides, ſeveral buſts or ſtatues, but no antiques; the houſe, however, is a handſome building. From hence we proceeded to Bill-Werder, a name given to a flat tract of land, which extends for ſome miles along the Elbe, and is full of villages, gardens, and country-houſes. This extent of ground was formerly a marſh, but has been drained, and now produces very good graſs, with plenty of all ſorts of fruit. Here we went to ſee M. Pichel's gardens, which are reckoned the fineſt and moſt ſpacious of any about Hamburg. This gentleman and M. Voght are both opulent merchants. The gardens are laid out, like thoſe we had ſeen before, in long ſhady walks, and abound with yew-trees, cut in the form of feſtoons and colonades, which at a ſmall diſtance make a pretty appearance. Here are ſeveral pieces of water, and a ſummer-houſe, in which the family occaſionally dine, or drink tea and play at cards. Our next ſtage was to Horn, a pleaſant village where they have a variety of gardens; the chief are thoſe of M. Greves, and the two brothers of the name of Reyners. M. Greve's gardens are much in the ſame taſte as thoſe of M. Pichel's, but not of ſo great a compaſs. Reyner's gardens far exceed all the reſt in fancy, and elegance; they have ſeveral water-works, which were played

off for our entertainment; and what pleaſed us prodigiouſly was the fiſh-ponds, well ſtocked with large carp, which came up in ſhoals on the ſurface of the water, to be fed by the gardener. Here alſo we ſaw a fine kitchen ground, and plants of good wall fruit: but, upon the whole, none of theſe gardens anſwered our expectations, though, perhaps, they would have pleaſed us more, had not they been ſo highly extolled. From thence we proceeded to a publick houſe, where we had a good dinner, and ſtaid till evening, when we returned to town. The road from Horn is very fine, and on each ſide of it the opulence of Hamburg is diſplayed in the number of gardens and ſightly places, which afford a moſt agreeable proſpect.

Notwithſtanding the affluence of the Hamburgers, and the great reſort of ſtrangers, the houſes of public accommodation are very indifferent. You eat tolerably well, but the rooms are paltry and dirty, and you meet with the worſt of attendance. The ſervants of the houſe will not move a ſtep for you; all they have to do, they tell you, is to wait at table; ſo that if your own ſervant is ill, or out of the way, you muſt pay a porter only to go to the next door for the moſt trifling meſſage. The badneſs of their caſements and locks is provoking, and their general want of delicacy and neatneſs moſt diſguſting.

guſting. But, indeed, this is a misfortune that an Engliſh traveller meets with in moſt foreign countries, where he will generally have cauſe to lament the want of cleanlineſs ſo conſpicuous in our inns and public-houſes. I remember I aſked our Ruſſian fellow-travellers, after we had been here a few days, how they liked Hamburg? and the anſwer was, that they might have liked it well enough, if they had not ſeen London. I have been in moſt of their inns, either by way of viſit, or to dine at their ordinaries, and ſaw none but what were very indifferent. Their ordinaries are tolerable; they are generally at a mark, or ſixteen pence per head, excluſive of wine; for which you have a ſoup, with three or four diſhes, and a deſert. You ſee no ſcrambling among them, as at ſome of our Engliſh ordinaries; and they are always ſure to help a ſtranger, before any other perſon in the company. Their butcher's meat is very good; the ſame may be ſaid of their tame fowls; and not above half the price of what they are in London. I cannot much commend their veniſon; yet both their veniſon and wild fowl are dear. Their markets are well ſtored with fiſh, which is cheap and good: they pretend to have a different kind of this commodity in the beſt of its ſeaſon, for every month in the year. But they have no mackarel,

freſh herrings, nor ſprats; and their oyſters they are obliged to bring either from England or Holſtein. They were once famous for their beer manufactory, if I may ſo call it, with which they ſupplied all the neighbouring provinces; but wine is now become ſo cheap, that their brewery is neglected, and in general their beer is none of the beſt. In ſome places, as the Boom-houſe and others, they ſell London porter, and Yorkſhire ale, and a white frothy beer made up in the country, called Winſen beer, which they value very much; but to me it is extremely diſagreeable.

I mentioned to you that they have great plenty of wines, French and German growth. The former are chiefly white, for they have very little claret, at leaſt I have ſeen none but at private houſes; what ſome perſons call claret here, is a very inferior wine, and indeed a thin, meagre, ſour beverage. The white French wine is a far better liquor; they have it of different prices, from four-pence to a ſhilling per quart; when kept to a proper age, it is a good liquor. Burgundy is very ſcarce, and they ſeldom have it of the beſt growth; their champagne is better, being extremely fond of this liquor at the cloſe of their entertainments. They have Rheniſh and Moſelle wines in abundance; and as for Old Hock, this city may be ſaid to be the grand repoſitory,

pository, from whence the North is ſupplied with that commodity. They have it from twelve-pence, to ſixteen-pence, twenty-pence, and two ſhillings a quart, according to its age. But their principal place for drinking Old Hock, is the Rath's-Keller, or public cellar. My friend M. D. and I having heard much of this place, went thither out of curioſity, in company with captain H. a young officer, from the dutchy of Mecklenburg. We got acquainted with this gentleman in a very odd manner, by dining at the Black Eagle, where they have an ordinary every day, and very good company. The captain is frank and open, but noiſy and loquacious: finding we were Engliſh, he addreſſed his diſcourſe particularly to us, ſhewing us every mark of regard; and on the other hand, his being a native of Mecklenburg was a circumſtance that prejudiced me in his favour. He had been in the Auſtrian ſervice, and is going to Denmark, about ſome private affairs, from whence he intends to embark for Portugal, in order to enter that ſervice. After dinner, hearing we were for a walk, he would be of our company, and inſiſted upon attending us; we begged to be excuſed, but he would accept of no refuſal: ſo that we found ourſelves exactly in the caſe of Horace, when he met the impertinent in the Via Sacra. We told him we had a vaſt way to go, even as far as Altena;

that we had viſits to make, &c. He replies immediately,

Never talk
Of diſtance, for I love a walk.
I never have the leaſt enjoyment
In idleneſs: I want employment;
Come on; I muſt and will attend
Your perſons, to your journey's end.

In ſhort, as the poet continues:

Like vicious aſs, that fretting bears
A wicked load, we hung our ears,

and were obliged to ſubmit to his intruſion.

When we came to the cellar, we were ſurpriſed at the diſagreeableneſs of the place, and that ſuch a deal of good company ſhould reſort to a ſcene of gloom and darkneſs; for you muſt burn candles in the middle of the day, or you can ſcarce ſee one another. It is properly a cave, to which you have an eaſy deſcent by a low vaulted entrance. The direction of it is in one of the burgo-maſters, three ſenators, and three burghers; but the immediate management is committed to a ſteward, who has a profitable buſineſs of it. The ſtock of wine preſerved in this ſubterraneous tavern, is prodigious; we taſted of different growths, which were all very good. But as I am no admirer of

Old

Old Hock, and I did not like the place, we made but a ſhort ſtay; and when we came to pay, we found that the good-natured, troubleſome captain had ſatisfied the reckoning. This is the cuſtom of the Germans, that not only at their houſes, but wherever they attend or accompany a ſtranger, they will not ſuffer him to be at any expence. From hence the captain inſiſted upon attending us to the coffee-houſe, where we drank very good coffee, concluding ourſelves condemned to hear his noiſy tongue the whole evening; but, by good fortune, a party at billiards was propoſed by ſome gentlemen in the room, and the captain being fond of play, agreed to make one, which gave us an opportunity to ſteal away, *ſic nos ſervavit Apollo.* Our evening was ſpent chiefly in congratulating each other on our eſcape, and indulging our reflexions on the captain's character. This gentleman's intentions were unqueſtionably very laudable; his good-nature prompted him to ſhew his particular regard to us as ſtrangers; and perhaps had he been leſs noiſy, his civility would have been more acceptable. But to force himſelf upon perſons whom he never ſaw before, and who plainly intimated they did not deſire his company, was acting diametrically in oppoſition to good-breeding; and ſhewing a complaiſance, which in England would be reckoned great rudeneſs: but the captain, indeed, is, in every reſpect, an original.

Beſides the Rath's-Kellet, there are vaſt numbers of inferior wine-cellars, in all parts of the town; which are kept in the nature of taverns; but they dreſs no victuals, and if you want any thing to eat with your liquor, you muſt ſend to an eating-houſe. There are a few Engliſh houſes of entertainment, the principal of which is Pariſh's, on the Vorſet, chiefly frequented by maſters of merchant-men.

Though they have ſcarce any good inns at Hamburg, they can boaſt of excellent coffee-houſes, which are chiefly about the Exchange: they ſeem to be deſigned rather for pleaſure and diverſion, than for the tranſacting of buſineſs. Moſt of the rooms have a billiard-table, where they are conſtantly playing from morning till night. This is a great hinderance to the reading of the news-papers, of which they have a variety in German, French and Engliſh. The multitude of people that frequent the coffee-houſes for the ſake of play is ſurpriſing; numbers of them are ſharpers, under the titles of counts and barons, who lye in wait for ſtrangers, to ſeek whom they may devour. At Dreyer's coffee-houſe there is a great deal of good company; they have five billiard-tables, and ſeveral rooms where they play at ombre and whiſt, the latter being now a faſhionable game in this country. The company play pretty deep, are well attended, with wax-lights,

lights, ſilver candleſticks, and other articles of elegance. After play, they either retire to their reſpective homes to ſupper, or drink a glaſs of wine, and eat a bit of cold collation at the coffee-houſe. It is very ſafe going home, the ſtreets being pretty well lighted; and beſides there are boys that attend about the coffee-houſes, with lanthorns fixed on the top of poles, who ſee you to your lodgings for a trifle. The great objection to their coffee-houſes, is the conſtant ſmoaking permitted in thoſe places, in conſequence of which a ſtranger not accuſtomed to this elegant practice, is in danger of being ſuffocated.

The Hamburghers are great lovers of muſic, and had, till very lately, a pretty good opera. How this entertainment came to be diſcontinued, I could not diſcover; perhaps it proved too expenſive for ſo ſmall a republic. However, they have a handſome play-houſe, about the ſize of the Little Theatre in the Hay-market, dramatic performances being acted in the German language, by a very good company of comedians. The price of the boxes is about half a crown, and the other places in proportion. The Germans have not a great number of original plays; moſt of their pieces are tranſlations from the French; but they are getting out of this ſervile ſtate by degrees, and ſome other nations are falling into it. You remember the

character of the German ſtage, given by a royal hiſtorian*, That their dramatic authors are entirely unacquainted with the rules of the ſtage; that their tragedy is only a monſtrous compound of bombaſt and buffoonery; and their comedy mere farce, offenſive to taſte and good-manners. The caſe is now much altered; the French taſte is ſpread over all Germany, and has given a new elegance to their theatrical diverſions.

Not far from the playhouſe, is the famous mall called the Jungfern Steig, or Maiden's-Walk, where the inhabitants reſort for the ſake of company, air and exerciſe. It is ſituated at the head of the Alſter, and extends along this beautiful baſon into the heart of the city. Its length may be about a thouſand feet, but it is rather too narrow, being not above twenty or twenty-five feet in breadth: it is bordered round by a row of trees, and railed in on the water-ſide: there are ſeveral ſtairs, for the conveniency of boats and covered barges, which will hold eight or ten people, with a table: in theſe they frequently ſup, being rowed up and down, and muſic playing. On the other ſide is a handſome ſtreet, with a row of fine houſes. Among theſe is one lately purchaſed by her ſerene highneſs the dutcheſs of Mecklen-

* Memoirs of Brandenburgh.

burg

burg Schwerin, who ſpends here every year two or three months in the ſummer, for the ſake of frequenting the public ſpectacles, which the duke, her huſband, does not think proper to tolerate in his own dominions. Her highneſs is here at preſent, along with her ſiſter-in-law, princeſs Ulrica; but as I intend to ſet out ſoon from hence, I ſhall poſtpone paying my reſpects to them, till I come to Schwerin, the place of their uſual reſidence.

The Hamburghers themſelves have properly no nobility; but there is always a reſort of nobles from the neighbouring countries of Holſtein and Lunenburg, eſpecially in the winter, on account of their public diverſions. There are alſo ſeveral public miniſters in this city, who have the title of envoys to the circle of Lower Saxony, and ſome of them make a conſiderable figure. I have not had the pleaſure of ſeeing our miniſter Mr. Woodford, who is very fond of the country, and reſides chiefly at his villa in Holſtein. His Britannic majeſty's agent to the circle of Lower Saxony, is Mr. Emanuel Matthias: I had the honour of being recommended to him by his worthy brother, my very good friend, Mr. Vincent Matthias, of the queen's treaſury; and can aſſure you that I have greatly profited by ſo powerful a recommendation. This gentleman, I mean Mr. Emanuel, is the youngeſt of five brothers, who live with great reputation in London, and are beloved

loved and eſteemed by all thoſe who have the pleaſure of their acquaintance. He has reſided here upwards of twenty years, ſo that he is in a manner naturalized to the country. His manners are frank and open, his diſpoſition generous, and his temper affable and engaging. Upon my arrival in this city, he received me with the utmoſt politeneſs, and has endeavoured to render my ſtay as agreeable as poſſible. I could not help ſaying leſs to you of a perſon, to whom I am not only indebted for his preſent civilities; but likewiſe for the great pains he has taken to promote, even in this diſtant country, the ſubſcription of my Vandalia. On which account I naturally call to mind the genteel behaviour of the whole factory, to whom I muſt always acknowledge myſelf much indebted, for the honour they have done me, by their generous ſubſcription.

The walks about Hamburg are vaſtly pleaſant, and much reſorted to by the inhabitants, eſpecially on Sundays; when divine ſervice being over, they flock in great crouds to the adjacent parts, and chiefly to Altena. But it is a check to their pleaſure, that the gates of the city are ſhut by ſun-ſet, which obliges great numbers to break up ſooner than they otherwiſe would, from company. For the direction of the inhabitants, there are printed tables, ſhewing at what hour the gates are opened and ſhut, throughout the year. But there is not a

pleaſanter

pleaſanter walk about Hamburgh, than that on the ramparts, which are ſo large, that three or four coaches may eaſily go a-breaſt, and being planted with rows of tall trees, form a moſt agreeable avenue: here you have an extenſive proſpect of the river, the town of Altena, and a charming country. The territories of the republic are but ſmall; on the north one mile; to the eaſt along the Elbe, about ſixteen, but not above four miles in breadth; and Altena on the weſt, within half a mile.

My friend M. D. and I went ſeveral times to ſee this modern town, which in ſo ſhort a time has reared its head, and by the extenſion of its trade, ſeems to rival Hamburg. I make no doubt but you have heard of the origin of its name, which was given it by the king of Denmark, merely out of a banter to the deputies of Hamburg: for the latter, in their remonſtrance to the king, having frequently made uſe of the words, *Dat is al te na*, which ſignifies in Low German, *it is too near*, meaning to Hamburg, the king took notice of the three laſt monoſyllables, and ſaid he muſt build the town; but to oblige them he would call it by the name they had given it. Altena is ſituated upon the north banks of the river Elbe, like Hamburg, from whence it is about half an Engliſh mile diſtant. The ſpace between the two towns is open and pleaſant, the river Elbe, at the foot of lofty

banks,

banks, rolling its waters on the left, and an agreeable avenue of trees ſhading you from the ſummer heats on the right. It is an open unfortified town, ſubject to the king of Denmark. In 1713, the Swedes, under general Steinbock, burned it down to the ground; but it has ſince riſen more beautifully out of its aſhes. The ſtreets are regularly laid out, ſpacious, and well paved; the houſes built of brick, and pretty uniform, but with no great elegance. It has been adorned with a town-houſe, and ſome other public buildings. The convenience of the Elbe brings ſhips of burthen to the merchants doors, who deal chiefly in the commiſſion-way, by forwarding goods to the inland parts of Germany. A great part of the commiſſion buſineſs, with regard to the Sileſia linnens, is likewiſe fallen to the merchants of Altena, ſince the Hamburghers attempted to lay a ſmall duty on thoſe goods, which they afterwards took off, upon finding it prejudicial; but they have not been able to recover the trade. The crown of Denmark has declared Altena a free-port, and it is likewiſe become the ſtaple of the Daniſh Eaſt-India company. The merchants houſes are chiefly in the lower part of the town, where they are ſubject to the inconveniency of frequent inundations. The inhabitants are chiefly of the meaner ſort, artificers, petty retailers, publicans, and Jews; for all ſorts of religion are tolerated in this town,

and ſects of every kind have their reſpective places of worſhip. So general a toleration draws a number of ſtrangers to Altena; a circumſtance which, in proceſs of time, may prove detrimental to Hamburg. But the greateſt encouragement ſeems to be given to the Jews; for they have not only the whole trade of money-changing, as at Hamburg, but they are likewiſe all profeſſed pawn-brokers; and what is very curious, the government allows them to take twenty-five per cent. when a Chriſtian is liable to be puniſhed, for taking more than ſix.

Some of the merchants in the upper part of Altena have elegant gardens, which make a moſt agreeable appearance on the banks of the Elbe. My friend M. D. and I went one afternoon to ſee thoſe of M. Fleiſchman, from whence we had a fine view of the Elbe, and the vaſt extent of country on the oppoſite banks of that ſpacious river. Theſe gardens are cut in different gradations and ſlopes, on the declivity of a hill, and ſeemed to me far more beautiful than the boaſted villas of Horn and Wanſbeck. From thence we returned that ſame evening to Hamburg, being invited to ſup, where we had often before dined, at Mr. Matthias's: this gentleman's houſe is pleaſantly ſituated near the ramparts, with a garden fronting him on the oppoſite ſide of the ſtreet, and a pretty little garden of his own on the back

back part of his houſe. We had an elegant cool ſupper, which was ſerved up in the ſummer-houſe; and we ſpent the remainder of the evening over excellent claret, in chearful converſation and innocent mirth. One of our company was the baron Marconnay, a young officer in the Pruſſian ſervice, between whom and Mr. Matthias there is an intimate friendſhip. The baron, indeed, is very deſerving of it, being poſſeſſed of numerous accompliſhments: he is ſenſible, polite, and good-natured, has read a great deal for ſo young a man; is bleſſed with a ſurpriſing memory, has a fund of humour, and tells a ſtory extremely well. I leave you therefore to judge whether I was not happy in ſuch agreeable company.

In mentioning the places of public reſort, I ſhould not forget the Rabe. Mr. D. and I went one Sunday to this village, which is only an Engliſh mile diſtant from Hamburg: it is pleaſantly ſituated on the ſide of the river Alſter, and diverſified with ſeveral avenues and ſhady walks. Here we entered a public-houſe, contiguous to which was a garden, full of arbours, where people were drinking tea, wine, beer, and all ſorts of liquors. Their gardens want one great addition to the beauty of their walks, which is gravel; for here, and indeed the ſame may be ſaid of all foreign gardens, you walk continually in duſt and ſand. There were ſeveral ſkittle-grounds, where even

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the better ſort of people amuſed themſelves with that exerciſe, and with ſmoking tobacco, which, in this country, is not reckoned indelicate, or offenſive to the ladies. There were ſeveral barges on the water, where people ſupped in ſmall parties; and the whole had the appearance of feſtivity and mirth.

On the oppoſite ſide of the Alſter, is the beautiful ſuburb of St. George, where M. D. and I had the pleaſure of taking a walk one evening, and were entertained with the variety of fine gardens, and neat country-houſes, on the banks of the river. We embraced this opportunity of going to ſee St. George's church, which is a modern ſtructure, very neatly built; and remarkable for having the pulpit over the altar, like that of St. Michael's. After we had ſeen the principal things worth notice, and among others ſome of the gardens or yards belonging to the callicoe-printers, we adjourned to M. Reich's gardens, a merchant of Hamburg, where we were entertained with that elegance and generoſity for which the gentlemen of this city are ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed.

Another evening we went to ſee the Engliſh bowling-green, whither we were invited by Mr. Matthias, and the gentlemen of the factory. Some of the company were amuſing themſelves on the green; but the far greater part were above with the ladies, in the aſſembly-

room. This aſſembly is open, as I mentioned to you before, to the natives of the place, who live in the greateſt harmony with the gentlemen of the factory. There are good rooms below ſtairs, where ſome of the company ſtay to ſupper; and even in the aſſembly-room, any one may call for beer, punch, or wine.

On this occaſion, I had the pleaſure of being introduced to M. Zinck, who reſides here in a public character, being counſellor of Legation to his Britannic majeſty, as elector of Hanover. This gentleman is juſtly celebrated for his profound and extenſive erudition. I thought myſelf very happy in the opportunity of paying my reſpects to him, and returning him thanks for the honour he had done me, in drawing up the advertiſement of my hiſtory, which was publiſhed in the Hamburg gazette. Here alſo I had the ſatisfaction of making acquaintance with the Rev. Mr. Vaughan, chaplain to the factory, and of ſeeing his daughter, Miſs Vaughan, a young lady endowed with beauty, good ſenſe, and other amiable accompliſhments. There were ſeveral other agreeable perſons in the room; and joy without a cloud ſparkled in every countenance. M. D. and I were engaged to ſup with an intimate friend of Mr. Matthias. This was M. Walthers, a native of Hamburg, who ſpeaks very good Engliſh, having been ſome time in England, and being conſtantly in company with the

tlemen of the factory. He has truly an Engliſh heart, for no perſon living can wiſh better to Great Britain. His ſtation in life is very genteel, being ſyndic to the republic; and his fortune not inconſiderable. Mrs. Walthers is a well-bred gentlewoman, and the pattern of a good houſewife: the eaſe and complaiſance with which ſhe treats her gueſts, is moſt engaging, never over-acting her part, or tiring you with compliments. With this good family we ſpent a pleaſant evening; our entertainment was elegant, the company joyous, and, to complete our happineſs, Miſs Walthers, who is a moſt agreeable young lady, entertained us with vocal and inſtrumental muſic; for ſhe not only ſings very prettily, but plays extremely well upon the harpſichord.

While we were at the bowling-green, the Rev. Mr. Vaughan made an appointment with us to pay a viſit the next day to a lady in this town, celebrated for her politeneſs and good ſenſe, as well as for her great attachment to the Engliſh nation. This is Madam de Bielke, a widow lady, and a native of Holſtein: her huſband, I have been told, was in the Daniſh ſervice, and ſhe has now a penſion from that crown. But of this I am not certain, for I ſpeak only by report. We breakfaſted that day with Mr. Vaughan, and about eleven o'clock he was ſo polite as to accompany us to the lady's houſe. We were introduced to her

in a handſome drawing-room, furniſhed pretty much in the Engliſh taſte. She is a tall, well-ſhaped lady, of a fair complexion, and moſt agreeable countenance. She received us with great chearfulneſs and complaiſance, and to my great ſurprize expreſſed herſelf in very good Engliſh, though ſhe had never been out of Germany. Mr. Vaughan had made her acquainted with the motives of my journey, which was in ſearch of farther materials for my Hiſtory; ſhe approved of my deſign, and deſired to be a ſubſcriber to the work. I would fain have made her a preſent of it, but as ſhe would not conſent to it, I was obliged to acquieſce. After a great deal of converſation on Engliſh literature, in which ſhe ſeemed to be very converſant, ſhe fell upon politics, and entered into a panegyrick on lord Chatham, with as much warmth and eloquence as any of his moſt paſſionate admirers. She was pleaſed to find that we joined with her in opinion, and were no detractors of the glory of that great miniſter. Chocolate being over, ſhe ſhewed us her library, which was well choſen, and conſiſted moſtly of Engliſh books, in various branches, but chiefly hiſtory and politics. And here by the way, I muſt obſerve to you, that Engliſh literature is greatly now in vogue in Germany, and eſpecially in Hamburg, where the merchants in common expreſs themſelves with eaſe in our language. Moſt of our beſt writers being alſo tranſlated into

into German, are become the favourite amuſement of this nation. But to return to Madam de Bielke: ſhe likewiſe introduced us into her cabinet of rarities, which was very curious, and remarkable for a great variety of Dreſden china. Abundance of converſation paſſed, and we were preſſed to dine with the good lady; but excuſed ourſelves on account of an engagement.

This was to wait upon the celebrated profeſſor Reimarus, who had appointed to meet Mr. Vaughan and me at the Gymnaſium, in order to ſhew us the city library. The Gymnaſium is a public ſchool, founded in 1613; it was built new from the ground in 1751, and ſtands in a very retired place behind St. John's church. Six profeſſors are maintained in this college; the firſt for Hebrew and the oriental languages, a poſt long filled by the learned M. Reimarus; the ſecond for mathematics; the third for phyſic and poetry; the fourth for logic and metaphyſics; the fifth for rhetoric and moral philoſophy; the ſixth for the Greek tongue and hiſtory. Over the great hall, where the lectures are delivered by the profeſſors, is the public library, a ſpacious and lightſome apartment. The days for admittance are only Wedneſdays and Saturdays, and even then it is attended with ſome difficulty. This I apprehend to be of a very bad tendency, ſince it is a hindrance to learning, and defeats the end for which

public libraries were erected. M. Reimarus waited for us in the library, where he received us with great civility, and would attend us during the whole time of our visit. He is a tall, thin old gentleman, of a fresh complexion and venerable aspect; he was accompanied by his son, an eminent physician, and by the librarian, a good-looking man, who seemed to be very fond of expressing himself in Latin. The room was well stocked with books, but not properly classed or ranged; accordingly he told us they were *rudis indigestaque moles.* Presently after he fixed his eye on a great pile of theological volumes, and vented an ejaculation with *unum scio me nihil scire.* Scarce had he uttered these words, when he saluted our ears with another trite sentence, *scire tuum nihil est nisi te scire hoc sciat alter.* But finding we paid very little attention to his Latinity, he began to shew us the rarities of the place. The principal was a very beautiful MS copy of the Vulgate, written in the 12th century, and most elegantly illuminated. We saw likewise a curious copy of the *Corpus Juris Civilis*, in two volumes folio, well bound and beautifully illuminated: within side were marked the printer's name and the date, *Petrus Schoiffer, de Gernsheyen*, 1472; but there was no name of the place where printed. On one of the leaves were written these words, *Donum beati Nicolai Stampelii, consulis quondam Hamburgensis.* We were

were afterwards introduced into a cabinet, where we ſaw only a few ſkeletons and *luſus naturæ*'s. I made inquiry whether they had any printed or manuſcript books relating to the hiſtory of Mecklenburg; but I found they had only ſuch performances as I had already peruſed in England. To make amends for our diſappointment, I had the pleaſure of getting acquainted in this place with M. Oeder, profeſſor-royal of botany at Copenhagen. This learned gentleman is now travelling at the Daniſh king's expence, throughout that monarch's German dominions, with a view of making botanical diſcoveries: the public is much indebted to him for thoſe with which he has already favoured us, in the ſpecimen of his large work, intitled *Flora Danica*. He intends to ſet out in a day or two for Lubeck, and as I am bound for the ſame place, I promiſe myſelf much happineſs in his company. My intention is to take a ſurvey of the greateſt part of the dutchy of Mecklenburg, before I go to Strelitz, and to confer with the gentlemen, who are ſaid to be moſt converſant in the hiſtory and antiquities of their country. With this view I propoſe viſiting the univerſity of Roſtock, and ſhall direct my courſe to Lubeck and Wiſmar along the Baltic coaſt. My friend M. D. goes no farther with me; his curioſity is ſatisfied with ſeeing Hamburg, and he propoſes returning with the firſt ſhip to London. As I ſhall be continually upon the wing,

direct your letters for me to Mr. Matthias's, at Hamburg, who will take care to forward them. In the mean time be assured, that wherever I ramble, the change of air and climate can make no alteration in my disposition towards you, being invariably

Your sincere friend, and humble servant, &c.

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LETTER III.

Lubeck, September 6, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

I Left Hamburg the firſt inſtant, after taking leave of my friend M. D. and wiſhing him a ſafe return to England. The agreeable connexions I had formed in that city, made me quit it with ſome regret; a misfortune incident to travellers, who when they begin to be acquainted with perſons of merit in a ſtrange country, are obliged to ſeparate from them abruptly, and to enter into new viciſſitudes. If life is compared to an inn, that of travellers may be more particularly ſo, when they are continually ſhifting the ſcene, without any fixed habitation. The pain I have ſometimes felt at parting with an agreeable friend abroad, has often brought to my mind, as a contraſt, the old man of Verona, whom the poet ſuppoſes to have enjoyed the greateſt happineſs,

pineſs, by living and dying on the ſpot where he firſt drew his breath. You remember thoſe fine lines of Claudian:

Felix qui patriis ævum tranſegit in agris,
Una domus puerum quem videt, una ſenem.
Qui baculo nitens in qua reptavit arena,
Unius numerat ſæcula longa caſæ.
Illum non vario traxit fortuna tumultu,
* * * * * *
Erret & extremos alter ſcrutetur Iberos,
Plus habet hic vitæ, plus habet ille viæ.

I ſet out from Lubeck at ſix in the morning, in the common ſtage of the country, called a poſt-waggon, which is little better than one of our dung carts, with boards nailed a-croſs it for ſeats, and backs to them, about a foot and a half high. They have generally three rows of ſeats, each holding three perſons; and they are beſides ſo incumbered with goods, that a paſſenger ſometimes has hardly room to ſet his feet. There is no getting into them without a ladder. They travel day and night, and in all weather, ſo that you are ſure of reaching your journey's end at a ſtated time. They move but ſlowly, not above three or four miles an hour; and where the roads are bad, you undergo many a ſevere jolt. Another incoveniency is their being uncovered, ſo that you are expoſed to ſun, hail,

hail, rain and ſnow. It is a little ſtrange that the Germans have not yet thought of providing travellers, and in a country where they travel ſo much, with a better conveniency. But what is very extraordinary, you pay as dear for theſe wretched vehicles, as we do in England for commodious ſtage-machines: you may judge of this by the fare from Hamburg to Lubeck, which is only thirty-ſix miles, and coſt me for my perſon four ſhillings and three-pence Engliſh, and three-and-four-pence for my trunk, beſides drink-money to the poſtillions, which is a groat each ſtage. Theſe carriages are very often richly loaded, and have always a heavy cheſt, in which the poſt-maſters put the money and jewels committed to their care; there is no inſtance of their being ever robbed, tho' they travel all night, and through woods and foreſts, with only a ſingle poſtillion. But indeed there is ſcarce any ſuch thing as a robbery upon the high-way in Germany. The poſt-waggon ſets out every day in ſummer at ſix in the morning and reaches Lubeck the ſame day; but in winter not till the next morning. Yet in this miſerable carriage did I venture to travel, preferring an open vehicle, in order to view the country, and ſtrengthen my conſtitution by inuring myſelf to the weather. I only made uſe of the precaution of an oil-ſkin coat and cap, to guard againſt the rain. Happily, however, the weather

ther has been very fine, ſince I ſet foot in Germany, and I hope it will be of long continuance.

When I came to the Lubeck poſt-office (for almoſt all the German ſtates have their ſeparate poſt-houſes in Hamburg) I met with my noiſy good natured friend captain H. who had taken place in the ſame carriage, intending to proceed from Lubeck to Copenhagen. Though his company would not have been ſo agreeable in a room, yet upon the road, I thought it might be tolerable; and the good-nature with which he expreſſed himſelf happy in ſeeing me again, made me return him the compliment. The road from Hamburg to Lubeck is execrably bad, either deep ſand or very ſtoney. I was jolted moſt terribly, the greateſt part of the way; but I believe it did me great ſervice: it was ſomewhat like riding in our hackney-coaches in the worſt ſtreets in London, before the new regulations for mending the pavement. The captain laughed moſt heartily at my making wry faces. His diſcourſe was as noiſy as the rumbling of the vehicle on the ſtones; and could be heard from ſuch a diſtance, that the poſtillion had ſcarce any occaſion to ſound his trumpet, as is the cuſtom in Germany, upon approaching an inn or town; for the captain's Stentorean voice proclaimed our arrival. About one o'clock, we came to a little village called Schoenbar, near fourteen miles from

from Hamburg, where the poſt-waggon changes horſes, and the paſſengers ſtay to dine. Here we were joined by the worthy profeſſor M. Oeder, whom I mentioned to you in my laſt; he travelled in his own carriage, in company with his draughtſman. I was glad to get out of the abominable vehicle, in order to ſtretch my legs, being almoſt crippled for want of room. There was a pretty good dinner provided for us; we eat and drank heartily; were very merry, particularly my honeſt captain H. who ſings a good ſong; and at two we were packed up again in the waggon. Profeſſor Oeder told me, he would keep up with us the remainder of the way, and that he ſhould be glad we would fix our quarters in the ſame inn with him at Lubeck, which was the ſign of the king of England. Capt. H. ſaid he was engaged at another houſe, a circumſtance no ways diſagreeable to me. I was glad of the opportunity of enjoying the company of the learned and polite profeſſor, without any noiſe or diſturbance. The country through which we travelled the greateſt part of the morning, was but indifferent; after dinner it improved, and we paſſed by ſome pleaſant woods and paſture lands; about ſix we ſtopped for refreſhment at a village called Crummes, in the territory of the elector of Hanover, four miles from Lubeck,

Lubeck, where the poſtillions got drunk, which is not an uncommon thing in Germany. Lubeck makes a very good appearance as you approach it, being remarkable for its lofty ſpires; the landſcape is the more agreeable, as the town being built on the declivity of a hill, ſhews itſelf all at once, in the form of an amphitheatre; ſo that you perceive its whole extent, before you enter it. We reached Lubeck without any accident by duſk, and I pitched my tent, as I had promiſed M. Oeder, at the ſign of the king of England.

Since my arrival in this city, I have not been idle, but with the aſſiſtance of my good friend the profeſſor have had an opportunity of ſeeing every thing, moſt remarkable and worthy of a traveller's notice. I had ſeveral letters of recommendation from Hamburg to perſons of note in this city, particularly one to M. Krupp, a ſenator of Lubeck. But I had no occaſion for recommendations; M. Oeder is known here to every body of diſtinction, eſpecially to the literati, who pay him, and indeed very deſervedly, the greateſt honours. I ſhall give you the ſubſtance of my obſervations and inquiries, beginning with a view of the city.

Lubeck is ſuppoſed by ſome writers to be the Treva of Ptolemy, who ſeem to found their conjecture on the preſent name of the river which

which waſhes its walls, viz. the Trave, anciently called the Chaluſus. But this is deſtitute of foundation; and I have ſhewn in the Hiſtory of Vandalia*, that Lubeck was founded by Godeſcalcus, king of the Venedi and Obotrites, anceſtor of the moſt ſerene dukes of Mecklenburg. At that time the whole province of Wagria, which contained the greateſt part of Holſtein, belonged to the kings of the Obotrites, who had their reſidence at Aldenburg, known in thoſe days by the name of Stargard. The firſt mention we find of Lubeck, is in Adam of Bremen, who treating of the affairs of the Venedi under Godeſcalcus, ſays, that monaſteries were eſtabliſhed in different parts of the country, as in Aldenburg, Ratzburg, Lentzen, and Lubeck. Cruco, prince of Rugen, who had uſurped the kingdom of the Obotrites, erected a caſtle in this town, in 1066; but Henry, the ſon of Godeſcalcus, having recovered in 1105 his father's crown, by killing Cruco, removed the town two miles from hence to the river Schwartow. By this ſituation it became more expoſed to the Rugians, who, to revenge the death of Cruco, intirely demoliſhed it in 1139. The kings of the Obotrites, being afterwards diſpoſſeſſed of Wagria, this province was given to Adolphus, count of Schaumburg, who in 1140 changed the ſituation of Lubeck once more, and rebuilt the

* P. 268.

town

town exactly in the ſame place where it now ſtands, and where it was originally founded by Godeſcalcus. By the conveniency of its ſituation on two navigable rivers, the Trave and the Wackenitz, it ſoon became a conſiderable colony. The town having had the misfortune of being burnt down in 1156, Henry the Lion, duke of Saxony and Bavaria, prevailed on count Adolphus to reſign the ground to him, in conſequence of which Lubeck was rebuilt, and erected into a free-port. But Henry the Lion, being put under the ban of the empire, Lubeck ſubmitted in 1182 to Frederic Barbaroſſa, who favoured it with the title of an imperial city. The duke recovered poſſeſſion of it in 1189; but in 1192, it fell to Adolphus, count of Holſtein, from whom it was wreſted in 1202, by Waldemar, duke of Sleſwick, afterwards king of Denmark. In 1226, it threw off the Daniſh yoke, and has ever ſince preſerved its freedom and independence as an imperial city.

Various are the conjectures concerning the name of this city: M. Willebrant in his chronicle of the Hanſe Towns, ſpends four pages in folio upon this ſingle ſubject; and after all, concludes that there is no depending upon any of their etymologies. I am of his opinion; but as the town was certainly built by the Venedi, all

Teutonic

Teutonic derivations in this matter ought to be ſet aſide; and if any attention may be paid to conjectures, I ſhould be for joining with thoſe who deduce the name from the Venedic word, *Lubeka*, which ſignifies a bride. Some pretend, and this is the tradition of the Lubeckers, that the town took its name from Lubovius, a fiſherman, who firſt obſerved the conveniency of this ſituation for trade, and came to ſettle here with ſeveral of his fraternity. But you know I am no friend to dark etymologies, and therefore ſhall take up no more of your time with ſuch inquiries.

Lubeck is a city of the circle of Lower Saxony, and dutchy of Holſtein, ſituated on the Trave, a fine navigable river, which, above the town, receives the Steckenitz, another navigable ſtream, communicating with the Elbe; and below the town, is joined by the Wackenitz, likewiſe a navigable ſtream, iſſuing from the lake of Ratzeburg. The Trave, after joining with the river Schwartow, empties itſelf about eight miles from hence into the Baltic, at a little town called Travemunde, which is properly the port of Lubeck. By means of theſe different ſtreams, flat-bottomed veſſels may navigate from the Baltic, along the Trave, the Steckenitz, and the Elbe, into the German ocean. The city is of an oval form, built on the two ſides of a long hill. On the ſummit of the

hill are two large ſtreets, which run in a direct line the whole length of the town, and are interſected by ſeveral leſſer ſtreets, extending down the declivity either eaſtward, to the Wackenitz, or weſtward to the Trave. By means of this ſituation the town is always clean; for the leaſt ſhower of rain carries off all the filth and dirt. The Trave, though not above twenty paces broad, is of a conſiderable depth, ſo as to bring ſhips of burden into the heart of the city, which it ſurrounds like a ditch, adding as well to the ſtrength as to the wealth of the place. Lubeck is encompaſſed with ſtrong ramparts, planted with trees, and forming an agreeable walk. There are four gates to the city, and about nine hundred men in garriſon, without reckoning the burghers. Over the Holſtein gate are theſe words: *Domi concordia, & foris pax ſane res eſt omnium pulcherrima.* On the other ſide is to be ſeen an imperial eagle crowned, with theſe words underneath: *Sub alis altiſſimi.* Over the mill-gate, which was repaired in 1684, is the following chronogram:

Porta locabatur Leopoldo Cæſare; porta hæc
Tuta cuſtodis Iſrael ſtet fixa ſub alis.

On the outſide of this gate, are theſe words: *Ecce cuſtos Iſrael non dormit, Anno* 1705. The ſtreets

ſtreets are broad and regular; and ſeveral planted with rows of trees. The houſes are large, and well-built, much in the ſame pyramidical form as thoſe of Hamburg. The town is about two miles in length, and one in breadth; and upon the whole may be reckoned one of the handſomeſt in Germany. The public buildings are numerous, among which the churches, the Senate-houſe, the arſenal, and the hoſpital, are the moſt conſiderable. The principal churches in Lubeck, are five: St. Mary's, the Dome, St. James's, St. Peter's, and St. Egidus; the leſſer, or as they call them here, filial churches, are the Burg, Holy Ghoſt, St. Catharine's, St. Clement's; and without the town-walls, St. George's, and St. Lawrence

The church of St. Mary's is a noble lofty pile, far exceeding any other ſtructure in Lubeck. It ſtands near the great market-place, and the town-houſe, in the heart of the city. The ſteeple is the higheſt in all the town, and divides itſelf into two ſpires; that on the north is two hundred and ſeventeen yards high, and was built in 1304; the other on the ſouth, in 1310. We went up to the top by as many ſteps as there are days in the year, and had a fine proſpect of the town and country. The entrance of the church is ſupported by two pillars of granite, each of one intire piece. The inſide is richly ornamented with pictures, and

with the tombs of ſenators and other eminent perſons. Theſe ornaments, however, appear too much crowded; and the eye is offended at ſeeing them ſcattered about in ſuch profuſion, without any regular order. Every hole and corner is filled with a long inſcription, containing the character of ſome ſenator or prieſt, whoſe memory, perhaps, ought to have been conſigned to oblivion. The high altar is remarkable for the beauty of the workmanſhip, as well as for the richneſs of the materials, being of the fineſt black and white marble; it was made by the famous Quellinus, of Antwerp, in 1697, at the expence of one of the burgo-maſters.

Not far from the high altar, is the celebrated aſtronomical clock, which, beſides its largeneſs, the multiplicity of its appurtenances, and ornaments, is indeed an admirable piece of mechaniſm. On it are ſeen the ecliptic, zodiac, equator, and tropics; and what is aſtoniſhing, the planets in their ſeveral courſes; ſo that the ſtation of any of them is to be found at every hour of the day, whether they be above or below the horizon, or to the ſouthward, eaſtward, or weſtward, with many other aſtronomical particulars. In a word, from this curious machine may be formed a compleat almanack, ſhewing the daily diſpoſitions and variations of the celeſtial bodies, ſun-riſing and ſetting, the eclipſes, feſtivals,

feſtivals, and remarkable days, for the meridian of Lubeck, and this in any year, even the leap years, down to 1875, which will be the year of conſummation to all theſe laborious diſplays of aſtronomical knowledge. There are likewiſe ſeveral ingenious automata, particularly an image of our Saviour, and on its right hand a door, which opening as the clock ſtrikes twelve at noon, forth come in order of proceſſion, the emperor, and the ſeven eldeſt electors; and turning to the image, make a profound obeiſance; this he returns with a kind of motion of his hand; then the auguſt groupe retreat in the ſame order, through a door on the left, and both doors immediately ſhut. In the tower above this clock, is another maſter-piece, the chimes; they play every hour, and with a juſtneſs, celerity and melody, which charm the moſt delicate ear. Under theſe chimes is the bell, for ſtriking the hour; which is performed by an image of Time, whilſt a leſſer figure, repreſenting mortality, and ſtanding at the other ſide of the bell, turns aſide its head at every ſtroke. That this work may not be damaged by any indiſcreet ſpectators, it is framed all over with wire, at the diſtance of arm's length. An inſcription on the left, ſhews the original date of this work to be the year 1405, though it has ſince undergone two repairs;

but the artiſt's name has long been buried in oblivion. In the following inſcription on the right, are ſet forth its excellencies, concluding with a devout admonition:

Aſpectum cœli, ſolis lunæque nitorem,
Lumina per certos ignem ducentia curſus,
Ut fluat hora fugax, atq; irrevocabilis annus;
Hoc tibi conſpiciens oculis haurire licebit;
Sed reſonos quoties modulos campana remittet,
Protinus aſtripotens numen laudare memento.

But the moſt noted thing in St. Mary's church, is the painting called *Death's Dance*, ſo much talked of in all parts of Germany. It was originally drawn in 1463, but the figures were repaired at different times, as in 1588, 1642, and laſt of all in 1701. Here you ſee the repreſentation of Death leading an emperor in his imperial robes, who with his other hand takes hold of ſuch another figure, which leads up a king; and ſo alternately a figure of Death and a human perſon through all conditions and ſtages of life. The intention of the artiſt was to ſhew that Death pays no regard to age or condition, which is more particularly expreſſed in the verſes underneath. They were compoſed at firſt in Plat Deutch, or Low Dutch; but at the laſt repair in 1701, it was thought proper to change them for German verſes, which

which were written by Nathaniel Schlott of Dantzick. A young lady of this town, who by dint of application, has made a great proficiency in our language, undertook to turn them into Engliſh verſe. She has been ſo kind as to favour me with a copy; and I imagined you would be pleaſed with ſuch a ſpecimen of the progreſs, which even the ladies of this country begin to make in Engliſh literature.

I. Death.

Ye mortals, up! your glaſs is out,
Both high and low; for do not doubt,
But tyrant kings, at my command,
Shall take a beggar by the hand.
I'll tune my pipe, as they advance,
And make them partners in a dance.

II. Death to the Pope.

Come, hoary father, you muſt know,
When death doth call 'tis time to go;
Your robes and triple crown forſake,
Inſtead of them this coffin take;
This coffin, which is far too ſmall
To hold the leaſt gew-gaw at all.

III. The Pope's anſwer.

Talk ſo to me! I greatly wonder,
You think ſo little of my thunder.
Can't holy water, holy tapers,
Stand me in ſtead againſt thy vapours.
Me, who have power to releaſe,
Or bind, thoſe ſinners whom I pleaſe.
'Twere paſſing ſtrange, were I to die
Without the keys of heav'n, not I.

IV. Death to the Emperor.

Monarch auguſt, ariſe, and pay
The debt you owe, nor make delay;
Be quick, I'll not compound for all
Your claims to this terreſtrial ball.
Nor ſhall thy mound, or ſword, or power,
Ward off my ſcythe a ſingle hour.
For Death I am, I'll be obey'd;
None but the wicked are afraid.

V. Emperor's anſwer.

Ah! ruthleſs Death! with iron hand
Doſt thou, at laſt, before me ſtand?
Thou need'ſt not tell me, fiend, for, oh!
Thy power is abſolute, I know;
But when my ſoul is on the wing,
May mercy ſave me from thy ſting!

VI. Death to the Empreſs.

Ceaſe, ceaſe, thoſe pearly tears, me fair;
I'll eaſe your heart, and ſoothe your care.
See yonder multitude appear,
Behold with them thy lord, thy dear:
You ſoon muſt join him hand-in-hand,
And life reſign at my command.

VII. The Empreſs's anſwer.

Welcome, thou meſſenger of peace,
Since that's the news, my joys increaſe.
Vain world, what is thy greateſt ſplendor,
Now I have loſt my life's defender?
Then mount, my ſoul, conſider this;
You'll meet your love in realms of bliſs.

VIII. Death to the Cardinal.

Why is your eminence aghaſt?
Seeſt thou not multitudes go faſt
Before thee? Bid the world adieu
With a good grace, and courage too.
How thou wilt fare, when this life's over,
God knows; but here you've liv'd in clover.

XI. The Cardinal's anſwer.

My hat, which brought me wealth and honour,
I owe to Rome, thanks to the donor.
Wrapt up in thoſe enjoyments nice,
I made the world my paradiſe.
My utmoſt wiſh, St. Peter's chair;
Alas! I never muſt come there.

X. Death to the King.

Think, royal ſir, on Sirach's words,
The king, to-day beſet with lords,
Tomorrow lies a corpſe moſt pale.
What vanity, that man ſo frail,
Should ſtile him mighty in his ermine,
Who can't preſerve himſelf from vermin?

XI. King's anſwer.

How! lift thy hand againſt a prince!
Thus regal ſtate is mere pretence,
A game at hazard or at cheſs;
Than living beggar now made leſs.
Death takes from me my wide domains,
And nothing but a grave remains.

XII. Death to the Biſhop.

Thy crozier is of no avail
To thee, who art ſo very frail;
'Tis but a broken reed at beſt,
The grave muſt be the place of reſt.
Some friendly hand thy tomb engraves,
"His flock th' unwilling ſhepherd leaves."

XIII. The biſhop's anſwer.

My life is no reproach to me;
Immortal here I cannot be;
Death's viſit now too well imparts,
This world ſhould not enſnare our hearts.
My watch is out, ſo welcome ſleep:
Beloved flock, my doctrines keep.

XIV. Death to the General.

Come, general, come, thou muſt away
With me to yon dark houſe of clay.
This march muſt end thy life's campaign;
If thou haſt warr'd, and not in vain,
Againſt thy luſts, as they aroſe,
More fierce than 'gainſt thy earthly foes,
A crown of glory is reſerv'd
For thee, by Chriſt, whom thou haſt ſerv'd.

XV. The General's anſwer.

Armies I've march'd through foreign lands;
My men obey'd my ſtrict commands.
Exploits ſo great my foes have prais'd,
And to the ſkies my courage rais'd.

But

But death, at length, hath taken poſt,
Arreſts my victories, all is loſt;
And calls out with inſulting brave,
Thy march is ended, well behave.

XV. Death to the Abbé.

The clock now ſtrikes that ſummons thee
To bed, ſtrange bed, where all muſt lie;
Small ſpot of ground, where you muſt dance
With me; you think it dire miſchance.
Of ſolitude be not afraid,
For there you'll find your comrades laid.

XVII. The Abbé's anſwer.

O human hopes, how frail, how vain!
I thought ere long to be a dean;
Promotions, titles, all my view,
My dreams by night and mid-day too.
But haſty death has quite confounded
Thoſe hopes, with which my dreams abounded.

XVIII. Death to the Knight.

Come, gallant ſir, your armour leave,
Your ſword and buckler; they might ſave
Your head in battle, but are not
Proof 'gainſt my darts, more ſure than ſhot.
Beſides, the dance you take with me
Requires a dreſs more light and free.
Then you'll perform my dance more clever,
Without incumbrance whatſoever.

XIX. The Knight's anſwer.

Like hero rather than plain knight,
I went to war in armour bright.
No lion fought with greater courage,
A truth my foes muſt ſtill acknowledge.
I laid my adverſary low,
Now ruthleſs Death will ſerve me ſo.

XX. Death to the Carthuſian.

Come, brother, thou muſt ſhut thy eyes,
Thy breviary and thy homilies.
Come, come, to me, to endleſs reſt.
If there, as here, thou art ſo bleſt,
As to be dreſs'd in white array,
Then Death will be a holy-day.

XXI. The Carthuſian's anſwer.

The ſtricteſt vows have me injoin'd
Thoſe rules which I'm oblig'd to mind;
Now Death ſays, thou ſhalt ſpurn them all,
And ſhortly quit this earthly ball,
I'm ready to attend his call.
A happy exit ſure is this,
If monkiſh vows be crown'd with bliſs.

XXII. Death to the Burgomaſter.

Ye citizens, forbear to weep,
Becauſe ye cannot longer keep
Your chief; behold, fair heaven's decree,
From which no mortal man can flee,
Has call'd him from this judgement ſeat,
Where he appear'd ſo good and great,
To praiſe his name for evermore,
The Lord ſupreme whom all adore.

XXIII. The Burgomaſter's anſwer.

My heart has been devoted to
My country, ever juſt and true;
Promoted all the public good,
To ſerve my friends did all I could;

Receive

Receive me, heav'n, adieu to care,
truſt I'll be a freeman there.

XXIV. Death to the Prebendary.

Come, this is no abiding-place,
This ſinful world, ſo void of grace;
Be comforted, if heaven's thy lot;
Ah happy man! for who would not
Barter this globe, and all therein,
The meaneſt place in heav'n to win?

XXV. The Prebendary's anſwer.

What art thou, bauble world now paſt,
A vale of miſery at laſt?
Thoughtleſs and vain as mortals are;
In mercy, Lord, our ſouls prepare;
In pity, God, then ſet me free,
Since all my hopes are fixt in thee.

XXVI. Death to the Nobleman.

How vain thy boaſts of hunting, friend,
Or hawking! why doſt thou pretend
To be a ſportſman? when alas!
With all your ſkill you cannot paſs
My fatal arrow; far more true
Than any that belong to you:
Then think on this, and yield thy breath,
No ſportſmen are ſo ſure as Death.

XXVII. The Nobleman's anſwer.

Hunting indeed's my fav'rite ſport,
I lik'd it better far than court:
The riſing ſun with bluſhing face,
Ne'er found me abſent from the chace;
The hounds the fallow deer purſue,
But now I am o'ertook by you.

XXVIII. Death to the Phyſician.

Set down thy bottles quick, my friend,
And think upon thy latter end;
Does not thy body far ſurpaſs
In brittleneſs that poliſh'd glaſs?
One blow the glaſs in pieces breaks,
A breath of wind thy fabric ſhakes:
And what remains of both when broke,
But dirt and fragments, atoms, ſmoke.

XXIX. The Phyſician's anſwer.

If vain my art, you may compare
Frail man to glaſs and brittle ware.
O what's my phyſic, art or pill,
To heaven's decree, and ſacred will!
When death commands we all muſt go,
"Kings, ſons of kings, and doctors too!"

XXX. Death to the Uſurer.

Come down, my friend, with all your pelf,
I claim the principal myſelf:
The intereſt too I'll not abate,
However I incur your hate.
I know thy narrow ſoul doth cry,
To part with that more than to die;
Yet never miſer came this way,
But down his deareſt gold muſt lay.

XXXI. Uſurer's anſwer.

In truth, I own my thoughts were ſuch,
They ran on uſury too much;
But with immenſity of ſtore,
The wretch that begs from door to door,
Was ne'er ſo miſerably poor.
Ah were my ſoul once more to riſe,
I'd ſet my wealth above the ſkies,
Where Death and all his ghaſtly train
Should ſeek for treaſure all in vain.

XXXII. Death to the Chaplain.

Rejoice, ye poor, and don't look ſad,
Becauſe your chaplain's very bad,
He'll leave his purſe to make you glad;

With

With all his revenues and places,
To cheer your ſad dejected faces.

XXXIII. The Chaplain's anſwer.

I ſerv'd the altar, th' altar me,
From whence I had an ample fee,
Diſcharg'd my truſt with all the love
That could the breaſt of ſinner move.
My conſcience tells I've done my beſt,
Which makes you, ſir, a welcome gueſt.

XXXIV. Death to the Steward.

Thou lookeſt ſour, what care I?
I know you cannot from me fly;
Your office, friend, I value not,
Nor for it care a ſingle jot.
Make haſte, man; nay, don't be untoward,
My meſſage, ſir, is for the ſteward.

XXXV. The Steward's anſwer.

I tenderly conſider'd peaſants,
To poor was ever making preſents
Of this or that I could afford,
Yet ever juſt unto my lord.
Then why am I of Death afraid,
Or wiſh that he had longer ſtay'd?

XXVI. Death to the Churchwarden.

Whatever locks you hold or keys,
They'll never turn back my decrees;
Nor all the clock-work that you have,
Will keep your body from the grave;
And though I am ſometimes a hobbler,
I'm ſure to king as well as cobler.

XXXVII. The Churchwarden's anſwer.

Being appointed by the people,
To keep the clock-work, church and ſteeple,
I took what care was in my pow'r;
But ſince I'm come to my laſt hour,
Transfer me, Death, to heav'n moſt fair;
I ſhan't be out of office there.

XXXVIII. Death to the Tradeſman.

Think on Adam's bankruptcy,
Which brought you all in debt to me,
I'm come for my demand to you;
Then pay me inſtantly my due.

XXXIX. The Tradeſman's anſwer.

Creditor-like with haughty air,
And high demands, you at me ſtare;
But I'm prepar'd, my will is made,
My ſoul I leave to God, who ſaid,
He'd ne'er deſert a ſinner, when
He cry'd for mercy to him; then
My goods I give to my relations,
According to their different ſtations;
Satan on all my ſins may ſeize,
You on my body, if you pleaſe.

XL. Death to the Recluſe.

What folly, man, thus to immure
Thyſelf in convent? Lord, why ſure,
Man ought with man to have communion,
They ſeldom thrive without a union;
No alter'd face or change of features,
I'll make you lye with fellow-creatures.

XLI. The Recluſe's anſwer.

Tho' man I am, I love not man,
For many ſurely grieve me, when
Inſtead of Chriſtians they behave
Like brutes, their ſouls to ſin enſlave;
Come, wiſh'd for Death, with all thy terrors,
O Lord, forgive me all my errors.

XLII. Death to the Peaſant.

Sweating with heat and toil all day,
Peaſant, I oft have heard you ſay,
You'd think yourſelf at eaſe and free,
Were I to come and viſit thee.

XLIII. The Peaſant's anſwer.

Yes, Death, to thee I made my moan,
To you, kind ſir, and you alone;
With labour hard, and ſweat of brow,
I earn the bread I live on now.
To-day I little thought to ſee
A friend to eaſe me, kind as thee.
Then take me, ſir, without controul,
And Lord have mercy on my ſoul.

XLIV. Death to the Young Man.

Ye maids, that lov'd this ſprightly youth,
Are diſappointed, that's the truth;
Your wiſhes, fair, were all in vain;
He's mine, and I'll my right maintain.

XLV. The Young Man's anſwer.

Pray, Mr. Death, I'm young and gay,
The time of life for ſport and play;
Indeed, I think you're full too ſoon,
To ſtop me in my courſe at noon;
My pleaſing hopes and lofty ſchemes
Muſt all diſſolve in idle dreams;
No bride to claſp within my arms,
And ſoftly ſooth me with her charms.
Grim Death commands, I muſt obey,
And mingle quick with parent clay.

XLVI. Death to the Maiden.

Come, pretty maid, and dance with me,
I uſe no compliments, you ſee;
I ſay, I hate your complaiſance,
So once more come with me and dance;
I've choſe you for my partner, miſs;
Nay, be not ſo ſurpriz'd at this,
I do not always love old age,
You'll make ſome figure on my ſtage.

XLVII. The Maiden's anſwer.

Since I muſt go, O ſiſters dear,
Chooſe you a partner, for fear
This grim-ey'd monſter, when I die,
Should like more of our family:
For ſure I think it much amiſs,
To give to him my virgin kiſs.

XLVIII. Death to the Infant.

Thus, tender ſuckling, I muſt give
The untimely ſtroke, no longer live;
Sleep undiſturb'd till the laſt day,
When Chriſt ſhall change thy maſs of clay,
Like his moſt glorious body dear,
Give thee a heavenly crown to wear:
Ah! happy they beyond expreſſion,
Who've paradiſe for their poſſeſſion.

XLIX. The Infant's anſwer.

Crying, indeed, was my firſt voice,
But now I've cauſe for to rejoice;
Bear me, ye angels, to my God,
I've 'ſcap'd both ſin, death, hell, and rod.

L. Death to the Dancing-maſter.

Monſieur, your dance is excellent,
And for to learn I'm fully bent;
You cut ſo true, with nimble feet
So fine, ſo gallant, and ſo neat,
That when we both do dance together,
We'll trip as light as any feather;
I'll force this truth from petit-maîtres,
There's none like me for cutting capers.

LI. The Dancing-maſter's anſwer.

Upon my word, I cannot ſay,
I like to teach at all to-day.
Nay, do not preſs me, I proteſt,
I cannot dance ſo well at beſt;
Beſides, look here, I've hurt my toe,
Upon it I can hardly go.
Lord, how you preſs one when refus'd?
'Deed, brother, I would be excus'd.

LII. Death to the Fencing-maſter.

Thou art a clever fellow true,
As ever foil or ſmall ſword drew;
Let's have freſh tryal of thy ſkill,
At this, or that, or what you will.
Adzooks, take care, or ſure as nuts
I'll whip my ſword quite through your guts.
I have done it, faith, there is no doubt,
For ſee, good friends, they're tumbling out.

LIII. The Fencing-maſter's anſwer.

O all is o'er, I loſt my breath;
But who the De'el can fence with Death?

The other churches are decorated moſtly in the ſame manner as St. Mary's, with carvings, pictures, and inſcriptions; but I ſhould tire you were I to enter into a deſcription of them all. I muſt, however, ſay a word or two concerning the Dome, or cathedral, on account of its rank and antiquity. It is a large Gothic building, erected in the year 1170, by duke Henry the Lion, anceſtor of his preſent majeſty, and Henry the third biſhop of Lubeck, as appears by the following inſcription:

Anno Domino, MCLXX. edificata fuit præſens eccleſia per dominum Henricum, ducem Bavariæ & Saxoniæ, & per dominum Henricum tertium epiſcopum Lubicenſem, & fundatorem monaſterii S. Johannis in Lubecke, conſecrata in honorem ſanctorum Johannis Baptiſte, & Nicolai confeſſoris Jheſu Chriſti.

On

On one of the walls of the church are ſome Latin verſes, mentioning an extraordinary circumſtance with regard to the foundation of this cathedral; namely, that Henry the Lion, duke of Saxony, hunting in this part of the country, took a ſtag, which had a gold collar and croſs about its neck, with this inſcription, *Hoc me Cæſar donavit*; mentioning the date of the year, which was in the reign of Charlemain; that the duke, being ſurprized at the accident, erected a cathedral on the ſame ſpot, and endowed it with a proper revenue. In commemoration of that event, the figure of a ſtag is to be ſeen on the top of the church.

But, ſtrictly ſpeaking, the biſhopric was only removed to this city in 1163, by the duke of Saxony, Henry the Lion, after it had been originally eſtabliſhed at Aldenburg, by the emperor Otho. In 1530, the Lubeckers embraced the Reformation. In 1586, John Adolphus, third ſon of the duke of Holſtein Gottorp, was elected biſhop of Lubeck; and from that period, this biſhopric has been conſidered as an appanage for the younger ſons of that illuſtrious houſe. But in conſequence of an agreement at Gluckſtadt, in 1667, between the king of Denmark and the branch of Gottorp, a prince of the royal family is to be alternately choſen. The biſhop's reſidence is at Eutin, a neighbouring town in Holſtein. The church is not kept decently clean, and

ſeems

ſeems to be in a ruinous condition. Upon mentioning this circumſtance to ſome gentlemen that were in company, they made anſwer, that the canons were poor, and the revenue inſufficient to keep the church in repair. It is not ſubject to the juriſdiction of the magiſtrates, no more than the Dome of Hamburg.

Before the Reformation, there were ſeveral convents of men and women in this city, which are now ſecularized, and ſerve either for the maintenance of the poor, or for the education of young ladies, or, in fine, for a retreat to others who chuſe to ſpend their lives in ſuch houſes, without being bound to a religious vow or habit. Theſe are St. John's, St. Mary Magdalen's, St. Catharine's, and St. Anne's. The lady who preſides at St. John's is called abbeſs, or more commonly Domina; ſhe has under her a prioreſs, and the community conſiſts of twenty-two members. There is an eccleſiaſtic belonging to the houſe, who acts as chaplain. The church is handſome, and particularly remarkable for the monument of a lady named Dorothea Elizabeth Pleſſen. St. Mary Magdalen was originally a fort erected by the Danes, when in poſſeſſion of this city. It was converted into a convent of Dominicans, after the expulſion of that nation, in conſequence of the famous battle of Bornhovet, which happened in 1226, on St. Mary Magdalen's day. The above battle is the æra of

the

the preſent freedom of Lubeck; and we find this event commemorated by the following monkiſh verſes:

Anno milleno duo C. ſeptemque viceno,
In fontis capite cecidit gens Danica lite,
Magdala quando pia ſcandit ſuper aſtra Maria.
Hic quoque tunc gratus fratrum fuit ordo locatus,
Et datur, O Chriſte, locus aptus fratribus iſte.

You are to obſerve that *in fontis capite* alludes to the word Bornhovet, which, with a ſlender alteration, ſignifies a fountain-head. At the Reformation, the convent was turned into an hoſpital, where a certain number of helpleſs men and women have a comfortable ſubſiſtence. St. Catharine's was formerly a Franciſcan convent, founded in 1225; but the church was erected in 1335, as appears by the following verſes over the door:

Anno milleno. ter. CCC. quintoque triceno.
Viceſſimo. trinoque. die. Julii. duce. Chriſto.
Hin. preſul. primum lapidem. ponebat. in. vnum.

I took notice alſo of a whimſical inſcription on the walls of this church, mentioning the repairs of the convent in the year 1350, juſt after a terrible peſtilence.

M. cum. L. ter. C. fierent. anni. tibi. Chriſte.
Dum. plus. quam. mediam. ferit. hanc. epydimia terram.

Adde. ter. I. clauſtrum. novum. verſum. ſit. ad. auſtrum.
Ac libraria. preſſa. ſtat. iſta. via.
Hiis. quos. mors. ſtravit. Deus. hoc clauſtrum. reparaviit.
Demptis. corporibus. ſit. bene. ſpiritibus.

Here you may obſerve, that the firſt diſtich conſiſts of two hexameters; the ſecond and third of hexameters and pentameters, which is ſomething ſingular. There are ſeveral handſome monuments in this church, and ſome good paintings, the principal of which is the Reſurrection of Lazarus, by Giacomo Tintoretto. St. Anne's was the laſt religious houſe eſtabliſhed in Lubeck; the date is no older than 1502. It was built for the nuns of St. Auſtin; but the Reformation ſoon after taking place, it was converted into an hoſpital and houſe of correction. Here is alſo an orphan-houſe, and another hoſpital called the Holy Ghoſt, for the reception of poor travellers, men and women, who are allowed a few days refreſhment.

The government of this city is Ariſtocratical, being veſted in four burgomaſters, and ſixteen ſenators, who are partly civilians, partly patricians, or men of family, and partly merchants. Each has his particular province or department; and their office is for life: two brothers, or father and ſon, cannot be admitted at the ſame time into the Senate. Their power is abſolute;

when one dies, they chuſe another to ſucceed him; and from their deciſions there is no appeal but to the imperial diet. They have two Syndics under them, with a prothonotary, and three ſecretaries, for the adminiſtration of juſtice, and diſpatch of public buſineſs.

Lubeck has been long famous for its body of laws, which are much the ſame as the *Jus Soſatenſe*. For when Frederic Barbaroſſa took this city in 1182, the citizens went out to meet him, and petitioned that he would confirm their privileges and laws, *ſecundum jura Soſatiæ*, to which the emperor moſt graciouſly condeſcended. The word *Soſatia*, mentioned on this occaſion, in monkiſh writers, has embarraſſed many civilians and antiquarians. Some think it is an error in the common reading, and that it ought to be altered to *Jura Holſatiæ*; but the learned Leibnitz has cleared up this matter from the Life of St. Ida, and proved that *Jura Soſatiæ* is the right reading. This Soſatia, now called Soeſt, is a town in Weſtphalia, famous for its ancient body of laws, from whence Henry the Lion, duke of Saxony, took the idea of a well-governed city. It is probable, that this body of laws was not eſtabliſhed all at once, but that new articles were added from time to time, as appears by ſome manuſcripts. It was not till the year 1582, that the Senate reſolved to digeſt them into a body, which was printed in 1585. The

authority of this code is ſtill very conſiderable in Holſtein, Pomerania, Mecklenburg, Pruſſia, and Livonia; and though the towns belonging to theſe countries have no right of appealing to Lubeck, yet cauſes are determined according to its law, which is particularly obſerved by the tribunal of Wiſmar. I have ſeen ſeveral copies of the *Jus Lubicenſe*, but have not yet met with one at any of the bookſellers. This I muſt own is very ſurprizing, that in a city ſo celebrated for its wiſdom, a city whoſe laws have been admired and followed as a pattern by ſo many other ſtates in Germany, there ſhould be no poſſibility of purchaſing a copy of thoſe excellent inſtitutions. Indeed, the book-trade ſeems to be on the decline, in Lubeck and Hamburg, the inhabitants of theſe towns being more addicted to commerce than letters. I ſhall obſerve to you by the way, that both here and at Hamburg, they ſell their books extremely dear, and do not keep them bound in their ſhops, but bind them occaſionally as they happen to retail them to cuſtomers.

Lubeck is ſtill the chief of the Hanſe-towns, a confederacy which, in former times, made ſo great a figure in Europe. The word *Hanſe* in the old Saxon is ſaid to ſignify an alliance, which was afterwards applied to the union of the maritime towns on the Baltic. Others pretend that the name is derived from the German

word *An-zee*, alluding to the ſituation of thoſe towns on the ſea-ſide. But the former etymology is the moſt probable; and it appears plainly from a privilege granted by our king Henry III. in 1272, to Lubeck, as the head of the Hanſe-towns, that the word *hanſa*, in thoſe times, implied a meeting or alliance; *Conceſſimus inſuper, quantum ad nos pertinet, burgenſibus & mercatoribus prædictis, quod ipſi habeant* HANSAM *ſuam*, &c. The beginning of this confederacy was in 1241, when the cities of Lubeck and Hamburg entered into a treaty to defend their property againſt the banditti, by whom the public roads were infeſted. The example was followed by ſeveral other towns on the Baltic, as Wiſmar, Roſtock, Grypſwald, called the Vandalic cities, which, for the ſecurity of their commerce, by ſea as well as land, joined the confederacy with Lubeck and Hamburg. This union was ſoon ſtrengthened by the acceſſion of ſeveral other trading towns, to the number of eighty-five in all: theſe were divided into four claſſes, the metropolitans of which, as they called them, were Lubeck, Cologne, Brunſwic, and Dantzick. In proceſs of time, the confederate cities obtained a conſiderable influence in the affairs of Europe; and in the diſputes between the ſeveral princes, they frequently made the ſcale preponderate which way they pleaſed. The Daniſh hiſtory particularly abounds with inſtances of the ſurprizing

prizing power of the Hanſe-towns. For the vending of their merchandize, they had four principal magazines or ſtaples; one at Novogrod in Muſcovy, afterwards removed to Revel, and from thence to Narva in Livonia; another at Berghen, the capital of Norway; another at London in the Steel-Yard; and a fourth at Bruges in Flanders: but this was transferred to Antwerp, where they took the famous houſe of the Eaſterlings, ſo called becauſe the people of thoſe towns have an eaſtward ſituation, in reſpect of that of the Flemings. And hence it is that the Flemings gave the name of Eaſt Sea to the Baltic, from its ſituation with regard to the German ocean.

The direction of the confederate towns in their moſt flouriſhing ſtate, when they were able, it is ſaid, to fit out two hundred ſhips of war, was committed to Lubeck. By means of that direction, and by other contingences, this city roſe to a formidable degree of power, ſo as to give laws to the Baltic. She maintained moſt expenſive wars for many years, not only againſt the dukes of Mecklenburg, but againſt the kings of Denmark and Sweden; and though ſhe ſuſtained ſome injuries on her own territory by the burning of a few villages, ſhe took ample ſatisfaction by making deſcents in Sweden, where ſhe laid every thing waſte with fire and ſword. But ſo much power and ambition in a trading city, proved at length deſtructive to her commerce,

and involved the reſt of the Hanſeatic confederacy in her ruin. The European princes taking umbrage at the power of this confederacy, would no longer ſuffer the towns within their juriſdiction, to continue in the alliance; this by degrees reduced the commerce, diſſolved the union, and conſequently diminiſhed the wealth and influence of the Hanſe-towns. Thus has commerce been continually ſhifting the ſcene; and thus the moſt opulent ſtates are ſubject to changes, and dwindle away by the injuries of time. Where are Tyre and Carthage, thoſe proud miſtreſſes of the Mediterranean? What is become of the famous emporiums of Julinum, Vineta, and Wiſby, in the Baltic? And, to come nearer home, does not graſs now grow in the ſtreets of Bruges and Antwerp, which a few centuries ago had engroſſed the commerce of the weſtern world? If poverty begets induſtry, and induſtry riches, theſe are productive of luxury, which have proved the ruin of the moſt powerful ſtates. Even Rome, the miſtreſs of the world, fell a victim to luxury, *Luxuria incumbit, victumque ulciſcitur orbem.*

The Hanſe, or alliance, beyond the limits of the empire, being thus diſſolved, the Teutonic cities would ſtill preſerve the union within themſelves; and they even made it a law, not to admit into their body, any other towns but thoſe in Germany. The city of Lubeck

continuing

continuing to have the lead of all the confederate Hanſe-towns, ſummoned the general aſſemblies, and was intruſted with the public treaſury. The ordinary meetings were held only every three years, and the extraordinary upon any emergency. But at preſent, the confederacy is almoſt reduced to nothing; ſo that no more can be reckoned to belong to it, than Lubeck, Hamburg, Bremen, Roſtock, Dantzick, and Cologne. From this ſketch you may perceive that the ſubject of the Hanſeatic confederacy is very intereſting, eſpecially in a commercial light; and being greatly interwoven with the hiſtory of Mecklenburg, it properly falls within my province to treat of it at large, in the ſecond volume of Vandalia, where I flatter myſelf it will form a curious epiſode.

The trade of Lubeck is ſtill conſiderable, tho' greatly diminiſhed by reaſon of the reſtraint laid by the northern powers on German commodities, and the commerce of the Engliſh, French, and Dutch in the Baltic ſea, who were formerly unacquainted with that branch of navigation. Its ſituation is the moſt advantageous for commerce, of any on the Baltic, having the beſt opportunity, by means of its excellent haven, of importing the products of Sweden, Ruſſia, Livonia, Poland, and Pruſſia, and forwarding thoſe commodities all over Germany. The Lubeckers have a very extenſive

trade in wine, which they tranſport to all parts of the Baltic. Their principal commerce is now on that ſea, and particularly with the ports of Riga, Revel, Narva, and Peterſburg. Hence they have always large warehouſes of the merchandize of thoſe countries in their own city; and the like repoſitories again at thoſe ports, filled with the manufactures and other goods of England, France, Spain, the Eaſt and Weſt Indies, &c. The river Trave brings ſhips of burden, as I mentioned to you before, up to the heart of the city; but the largeſt unload at Travemund, a little town at the mouth of the river about eight miles diſtant from Lubeck. The ſhips in the harbour have papers hung up in ſome conſpicuous part, with inſcriptions ſhewing to what port they are bound. There are three bridges in the town over the Trave, two of wood, and one of ſtone, called the Holſtein bridge, being ſituated near the gate of that name. One thing I obſerved, there are no Jews in Lubeck, though they ſwarm in moſt places of any note for traffick.

The town-houſe of Lubeck is very ancient; but, like that of Hamburg, no way anſwerable to the grandeur and dignity of the city. Round the ſtairs, by which I mounted to the hall where the courts of juſtice are held, I ſaw the following pentameter from Ovid on one ſide:

Cauſa

Cauſa patrocinio non bona pejor erit;

and on the other theſe words:

Diſcite juſtitiam moniti, & non temnere Jhovam.

Here they ſhewed me the room where the aſſemblies of the Hanſeatic confederacy were formerly held; it is kept in very bad order, thoſe meetings being now diſuſed. From hence I was introduced to the War-room, as it is called, where they ſhewed me ſome old armour, with a variety of paintings, or rather daubings, of no curioſity or value. But the audience-chamber, below ſtairs, is extremely elegant, and richly paid me for my diſappointment in the other parts of the building. It has been newly decorated at a conſiderable expence. On the wainſcot are ſeveral fine paintings by ſignor Torelli, whoſe daughter is married to general Chaſſaw, commandant of Lubeck. The names of the figures are Liberty, Piety, Juſtice, Plenty, Vigilance, Foreſight, Fortitude, Taciturnity, Commerce, and the Polite Arts. I was told that they gave the artiſt an hundred ducats for each piece. Signor Torelli is now at Peterſburg, whither he has been invited by the preſent empreſs. The pavement of this chamber is all of marble, the ſeats covered with velvet, and the door a very elegant piece of ſculpture.

Engliſh

Engliſh furniture is grown quite faſhionable in Lubeck. Moſt of the houſes where I have viſited, are ornamented with mahogany tables, bureaus, and chairs, from London. In ſhort, luxury has made as great a progreſs in this city, as at Hamburg; and nothing is eſteemed, but what is far fetched and dearly purchaſed.

The women in Lubeck make uſe of an odd covering for their head, viz. a kind of ſtraw bonnet, or rather baſket, which projects in ſuch a manner, that you cannot ſee their faces. This indeed is a great pity, as the fair ſex in this town are very handſome; and thoſe bonnets muſt be exceeding heavy and cumberſome to that amiable part of the creation. They have no theatre, but ſome good coffee-houſes, where their chief amuſement is the ſame as at Hamburg, ſmoking and playing at billiards. Their inns are very good, and that where I lodge is remarkably clean: there are ordinaries at them all, where you dine very well for ſixteen-pence per head, beſides wine, which is pretty good and reaſonable. They have a diverſion of ſhooting with an arrow, for pots of beer, at which they are very expert. Their beer is better than that of Hamburg, and much eſteemed over all the country. The walks about town, and on the ramparts, are delightful. The merchants have their gardens in the environs, like thoſe of Hamburg,

burg, but not ſo expenſive and magnificent: the chief villas are thoſe of Pauli, Otto, madam Nieuburg, Kron, and Peterſon. I mentioned to you that I had a letter of recommendation to ſenator Krupp, who was at his country-ſeat, where I waited on him, and was entertained in a moſt agreeable manner. He ſeemed to be very uneaſy that M. Dreyer, the ſyndic of Lubeck, happened to be abſent upon a viſit to Sleſwick; becauſe, as I was come upon a literary errand, he knew no perſon, he ſaid, ſo capable of ſatisfying my inquiries: he propoſed, however, to write to him, in order to haſten his return. M. Dreyer is one of the moſt learned men in Germany, and particularly well verſed in the hiſtory of Holſtein and Mecklenburgh. I ſhould have thought myſelf very happy in his acquaintance; but as I am confined in point of time, and the ſenator could not tell me how ſoon he would return, I begged he would not give himſelf the trouble of writing.

But my chief Cicerone and guide is profeſſor Oeder, who has done me the honour of accompanying me in every viſit and party of pleaſure. The morning after our arrival, we took a walk to the Jeruſalem-berg, a hill about half a mile out of town, from whence we had an enchanting proſpect of the adjacent country. Here is a mount Calvary, with ſeveral religious

ligious monuments erected in popiſh times, by Henry Conſtin, a rich citizen of Lubeck, after his return in 1468, from a pilgrimage to the Holy Land; his arms are ſtill to be ſeen, but the inſcription round the ſtone is defaced, and you can only diſtinguiſh ſome confuſed fragments of monkiſh letters. The ſame day we were invited to dine at a near relation of M. Oeder's, namely, M. Geſner, co-rector of the public Gymnaſium, and keeper of the public library. There are ſeveral good ſchools in this city; but that called the Gymnaſium, is, by far, the beſt; it was formerly a Franciſcan convent, but ſince the Reformation has been appropriated to the uſe of public education. There are four maſters, viz. the rector, co-rector, ſub-rector, and cantor, with four pædagogi, or uſhers. The ſchool is divided into ſeven claſſes; in the firſt the rector, co-rector, and ſub-rector preſide; in the ſecond and third, the co-rector, ſub-rector, and cantor; in the others, the pædagogi. The preſent rector is M. Overbeck, a gentleman of great learning and merit; the co-rector, as I mentioned to you before, M. Geſner; and the ſub-rector, an ingenious young gentleman named M. Behn. I told M. Oeder, that as his couſin Geſner was librarian, I ſhould be obliged to him if he would permit us to amuſe ourſelves before dinner in the library. M. Geſner was made acquainted with my intention, and he very politely promiſed

ſed to attend us himſelf to the place appointed. This gentleman is nephew to the celebrated Geſner of Gottingen; he is tall in ſtature, of a fair complexion, ſlender in his perſon, and of a delicate conſtitution. He has a commodious apartment in the college, adjoining to the library. To this office is annexed a yearly ſalary of four hundred marks, for which he has not much trouble, the library being open only on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, and that from two to four; which, for ſo trifling a time, ſeems to be of very little uſe to the public: it is a large lofty room, containing upwards of fifteen thouſand volumes: the books are bound in vellum, which is practiſed throughout Germany. They call it the library of St. Catharine, and date the foundation of it in 1620. One great objection is, that the books are not properly claſſed; for as they conſiſt of ſeveral collections, which at different times were bequeathed to the public, theſe are all kept ſeparate, to comply with the will or vanity of the donor. The greateſt part are either on divinity or law, and but few, comparatively ſpeaking, on hiſtory, not even on that of their own republic. There are ſome tracts, however, relating to Mecklenburg; ſuch as the apologetical pieces for duke Charles Leopold, printed in 1719; and the *Collectanea Mecklenburgica, faſciculus primus.* Here I ſaw the old *Codex Juris Lubicenſis;* another copy in German, printed

ted at Lubeck in 1586; and the learned Merrius's commentary on that code in 1642. The rarities in the typographical way were: 1. Cicero's Offices, in quarto, printed at Mentz, with the following words at the end: *Præſens Marci Tullii clariſſimum opus Johannes Fuſt, Moguntinus civis, non atramento, plumali canna, neque ærea, ſed arte quadam perpulchra Petri manu pueri mei, feliciter effeci, finitum anno,* 1465. Underneath the following remark is made in writing: *See Mattaire annales typographici, tom.* i. *p.* 60, 61. Fabricius ſuppoſes the above Latin words to have been written in the margin, which is a miſtake; for they are printed, as I obſerved, at the end of the book. 2. A beautiful MS entitled, *Hermannus Kornerus ordinis prædicatorum chronica novella,* in two volumes in folio. 3. A tranſlation of the Bible into Lower Saxon, printed at Lubeck in 1494, by Stephen Arndes, with a commentary. M. Geſner ſhewed us an extraordinary paſſage in the third chapter of Geneſis; *and he ſhall rule over thee:* to which the German verſion adds, *to torment and to beat thee.* 4. We ſaw the Augſburg edition of Luther's tranſlation of the Bible in 1535, beautifully illuminated; of which there are but three copies, thoſe of Lubeck, Lunenburg, and Berlin. 5. We were ſhewn a MS copy of the book called *Saxiſche Spiegel,* or the Saxon Looking-glaſs, on which they ſet a great value. The laſt thing we took notice of was

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an excellent picture of an aged perſon, peruſing a large folio, and ſurrounded with globes; it was done by the father of Sir Godfrey Kneller.

During the courſe of our converſation, M. Gefner, ſpeaking of the origin and antiquity of Lubeck, told us that the ground on which the town is now ſituated, between the Trave and the Wackenitz, was anciently called the iſle of Bucu. He farther acquainted us, that ſome years ago, an ancient painting was found in this city, repreſenting the town of Lubeck, with the following inſcription, *Lubeca urbs imperialis, anſæ caput.* On the river Wackenitz, were the figures of three beautiful nymphs, naked to the waiſt, holding each other by the hand; and over their heads was written the word, *Bucobraſtuſides*; the firſt was named *Polypſilonna*, the ſecond *Leucoris*, and the third *Macrodiris*; and underneath was this inſcription, *Cygneæ Naiades Bucobraſtuſiæ.* At the bottom of the picture were the following verſes:

Dicite, Germanæ, Bucobraſtuſides, *undas*
Quæ colitis Wackeniſſæas, Macrodiris, *& alba*
Leucoris, *& clangora* Polypſilonna, *Lubecæ*
Quæ ſint, quæ fuerint, quæ mox ventura trahantur,
Vos noviſtis enim, vos omnia priſca notaſtis.
Dicite, cultori ſtudioſo dicite veſtro,
Dicite, Germanæ, Bucobraſtuſia proles,
Dicite, vos noviſtis enim, quæcunque Lubecæ
Aut ſint, aut fuerint, aut mox ventura trahantur.

M.

M. Geſner could not tell us, whether this picture was ſtill extant, but only ſaid it was in its time reckoned a valuable piece, and had exerciſed the critics and antiquarians, moſt of whom had loſt themſelves in conjectures. But all the explications he had ever heard concerning thoſe nymphs, and the picture which repreſented them, were founded in fable. They ſerved, however, to confirm the tradition, aſſerting that from the moſt remote times, the iſland on which Lubeck ſtands, was diſtinguiſhed by the name of Bucu.

In the midſt of our literary amuſement, a ſervant came to inform us that dinner was upon the table, upon which we adjourned to M. Geſner's apartments; there we were receivde by Mrs. Geſner. Our entertainment was excellent, but not over ſumptuous, which gave me ſome ſatisfaction, thinking, for one day, that I ſhould dine *en philoſophe*. In ſhort, M. Geſner made us very welcome, but uſed no compulſion; he left us, at our liberty, to eat and drink as we pleaſed, which was behaving with real politeneſs. After dinner we adjourned again to the library, where we drank coffee, and ſpent ſome time in chit-chat till it was time to retire to our quarters.

We were invited to ſpend the next evening with M. Behn, the ſub-rector, a very agreeable young gentleman, who is lately entered into the matrimonial ſtate. Many of the principal literati

literati of the town were preſent, and the aſſembly was alſo graced by a number of brilliant ladies. Moſt of the company played at cards; while the gentlemen whoſe turn it was to be out, ſmoked their pipes, with which the ladies were not at all offended. The maſter of the houſe lighted the pipe himſelf for moſt of his gueſts; for ſome he puffed a few whiffs; then taking the tube out of his mouth, and gently touching it with the ſkirt of his coat, he preſented it to his friend. This is the cuſtom of the country, and cuſtom reconciles us to every thing. We had no regular ſupper, but the company kept eating and drinking the whole evening; for the ſervants continually walked about the room, preſenting the ladies and gentlemen with wine and beer, and little ſlices of cold meat. We ſtaid till very late; and upon our breaking up, we received an invitation from the rector, M. Overbeck, to dine with him the next day; but as we were pre-engaged to ſup with Dr. Trendenlenburg, the principal phyſician in the city, I told my friend, M. Oeder, that it would be too laborious a taſk to accept of two invitations on the ſame day.

I am extremely glad we had the precaution not to dine with the rector, for the duty we underwent at Dr. Trendenlenburg's was almoſt ſufficient to demoliſh us. The doctor is

a native of New Brandenburgh, and conſequently born a ſubject of the duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz: he made his early ſtudies in company with profeſſor Oeder, and ever ſince the greateſt intimacy and friendſhip has ſubſiſted between them. He is a tall, handſome man, inclinable to be corpulent, round-faced, with black eyes, and, upon the whole, a moſt ſenſible phyſiognomy: Mrs. Trendenlenburg is a very agreeable woman, by whom he has nine beautiful children. Though the doctor has the chief practice of the town, and lives with the elegance and plenty of a nobleman, he does not keep his coach; nor is it the cuſtom for phyſicians here to parade it with an equipage. Their fees are but ſmall, I think a dollar a viſit.

The company that met on this occaſion, were very numerous, it being cuſtomary for the Germans to invite their principal relations and friends, in order to do honour to the foreigner. The intention, no doubt, is very good, but the thing itſelf not well judged; the pleaſure of converſation being generally loſt in ſuch large companies. We had cards and pipes as the preceding evening, and about nine we went to ſupper. There was a clergyman, a relation of Mrs. Trendenlenburg, who ſaid grace, after which they ſat down with great ceremony. To enumerate every diſh, would be entering into too minute a detail, and perhaps I ſhould be at a loſs to diſtinguiſh ſeveral of them; but

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I verily believe we had forty different ſorts. There was a variety of good wines, of which the company drank pretty freely. After meals the Germans do not take away the table-cloth, nor do the ladies retire by themſelves, as in England; but keep eating of fruits and ſweetmeats, and drinking, though more ſparingly, with the gentlemen, till the company riſe from table, that is, for about three hours. When the repaſt is over, they all go round the room with great formality, to make their compliments: the gentlemen kiſs one another, but when they come to the ladies, they only preſs their lips to their hands. The ladies ſalute each other in the ſame manner as the gentlemen, and they all make uſe of a German expreſſion, which ſignifies the ſame as, *Much good may it do you.* Then they ſit down and chat a little, and if it be not too late, the gentlemen ſmoke another pipe; but no more drinking. For my part, I was very glad when the company broke up, and after ſo much feaſting, expected the next morning to want the doctor's aſſiſtance in the medical way; but Providence has been ſo kind as to preſerve me hitherto, in the midſt of the greateſt dangers.

Finding ourſelves pretty well the next day, contrary to our expectations, my friend and I reſolved to pay a viſit to Travemunde, and by the way to ſee a curious phænomenon, namely,

the tents of the German emigrants in this neighbourhood, who are waiting for ſhips to tranſport them to Ruſſia. The preſent empreſs has plainly ſhewn her great abilities for government, in the attention ſhe pays to population, encouraging foreigners from all parts to ſettle in that extenſive empire. Above ten thouſand have been already ſhipped off from hence, and two thouſand are now encamped in this neighbourhood. As excellent as this policy is in that great empreſs, no leſs imprudent is the conduct of the German princes, who ſuffer their country to be drained of its chief ſtrength, by ſuch emigrations. This is owing to the oppreſſion of the nobility, under whom the peaſants live in a ſtate of villanage, deprived of the comforts, and almoſt the neceſſaries of life. In the Roman catholic provinces, they groan under the additional burden of intolerance in religion, which occaſions ſuch numbers of proteſtants to ſteal away from thoſe quarters. There were ſeveral emigrants from the dominions of his Pruſſian majeſty; but this prince, having had intelligence of their elopement, ſent an officer with peremptory orders to claim all his ſubjects, and accordingly they were delivered up by the Ruſſian commiſſary. The Pruſſian dominions were too much depopulated by the laſt war, to admit of any migrations; and at no time do I believe, that ſo wiſe a prince would

have acquieſced in ſo imprudent a meaſure. We came to the emigrants encampment early in the morning, in the road to Travemunde, and found them regularly lodged in their ſeveral tents, ſome with their wives and children, and ſome ſingle, but all in the moſt wretched appearance of poverty. They ſeemed pleaſed, however, with the approaching proſpect of bettering their condition, being told that they were to have lands in Ruſſia, to cultivate as their own property. Theſe, perhaps, were but airy dreams; yet they hugged themſelves with the fancy, and enjoyed the pleaſing viſion. I pitied the poor wretches, who looked half-ſtarved and half-naked, tranſporting themſelves into a country where they were utter ſtrangers, and a country not much famed for hoſpitality. Beſides, I queſtion whether the condition of peaſants be much better in Ruſſia than in Germany; but they were made to believe ſo, and that was ſome conſolation in their preſent miſerable ſtate. At the ſame time I could not help reflecting on the happy ſituation of the common people in England, where liberty reſcues the poor from oppreſſion, and enables them to paſs their days in peace, inured it is true to ruſtic toil, yet bleſſed with home-bred plenty. This train of thought recalled to my memory the following lines:

O Liberty! thou goddeſs heavenly bright,
Profuſe of bliſs, and pregnant with delight;
Eternal pleaſures in thy preſence reign,
And ſmiling Plenty leads thy wanton train;
Eas'd of her load Subjection grows more light,
And Poverty looks chearful in thy ſight;
Thou mak'ſt the gloomy face of nature gay,
Giv'ſt beauty to the ſun, and pleaſure to the day.

After a ſhort ſtay to view this encampment, we quitted the melancholy ſcene, and turned into the road to Travemunde, which being planted with trees, forms an agreeable avenue. The diſtance is not above eight miles, and through a pleaſant fruitful country. We got to Travemunde by noon, and went to a pretty good inn famous for dreſſing of fiſh. After we had ordered dinner, we took a view of the town, which is very ſmall, but neatly built. Count Albert of Orlamund, deputy of Waldemar, king of Denmark, erected a ſtrong tower here in 1217, the command of which was held in 1262, by Willekinus of Stade; and my reaſon for mentioning him, is, becauſe the writers of thoſe times called him, *Advocatus in turri Travenemunde.* The tower was become a great nuiſance to the Lubeckers, as it commanded the mouth of the river; ſo that they could not reſt, till they made themſelves maſters

maſters of this place; which was effected at length by purchaſe in 1320, when they gave four thouſand marks for it, to John, count of Holſtein. They levelled the tower to the ground, but ſurrounded the town with walls; and new fortifications have been ſince added, which render Travemunde a place of ſome ſtrength. The harbour is ſafe and commodious, and has the conveniency of a lighthouſe to direct the mariners by night. We ſaw a great number of veſſels; thoſe of the largeſt ſize are obliged to unload here, the river being too ſhallow up to Lubeck. Travemunde, in German, ſignifies the mouth of the Trave. This river is of no great breadth, but of conſiderable depth: it has its ſource in the territory of Wagria, and dutchy of Holſtein, about four German miles from Lubeck, at the village of Gieſelrade, and not far from that of Sarau; from thence it ſteers its courſe weſtward to Travenhorſt, and joins the little ſtream of Swogelbecke, coming from Arenſbocke and Gniſſow; after which it runs by Wenſin, into the lake of Werder; from thence it emerges not far from the village of Werder; and after it has received, near a hamlet called Ronnow, a rivulet of the ſame name, iſſuing from the lake of Segeberg, it turns its courſe ſouthward towards Oldeſloe, where it begins to be navigable, and runs northwards the length of ſix German miles, till it reaches Lubeck;

above this city it receives the Steckenitz, and below the Swartowe; then continuing its courſe four German miles farther, it empties itſelf into the Baltic at Travemunde. After we had ſurveyed the place, we returned to our inn, where we found our dinner ready, and the fiſh anſwered our expectation. We came away time enough to get back to Lubeck, before the gates were ſhut, and repaired directly to our quarters at the King of England. We ſupped with ſeveral ſtrangers, ſome of whom were agreeable company. Among others, there was a foreign officer in the Engliſh ſervice, who is here upon a recruiting party, to raiſe men for the Engliſh troops in America. Colonel Prevot is upon the ſame errand at Hamburg; and I hear that they have both been very ſucceſsful. Thus you ſee that Germany is ſtill the *officina gentium*, the great nurſery of the North, from whence ſuch ſwarms of men have been drawn in all ages, ſometimes to people, and ſometimes to deſolate, diſtant provinces. I forgot to mention to you, when I wrote from Hamburg, that I had been to viſit colonel Prevot, in company with Mr. Matthias. There was alſo a genteel youth, lately come from Bremen, ſon of Mr. Groote, a merchant in London. But the principal character was M. K. who had been many years reſident in this city, from the court of Denmark. He is a jolly handſome man, turned of fifty, a lover of good

good cheer, and not without a great ſhare of vanity. He ſays he is retired now from buſineſs, and has purchaſed an eſtate at a place called Hindenberg, in the dutchy of Mecklenburg. He was born in Upper Saxony, yet choſe the latter country to live in, becauſe of the privileges enjoyed by the nobility. I am ſurprized that a perſon ſo long inveſted with a public character, ſhould not ſpeak French, eſpecially in a commercial city; and I fancy his function was not of the firſt order: it is common here for merchants and others to take upon them the name of miniſters, upon being honoured by a crowned head with a few commiſſions or agencies. M. K. has invited me to come and ſee him at his country ſeat, which is at no great diſtance from hence; but it is out of my road, and I am not fond of paying viſits to gentlemen whoſe converſation is intirely confined to their wines, their horſes, their dogs, their lands, and their buildings. This Daniſh miniſter knows not a word of hiſtory, or of the ſtate of Europe; in ſhort, he is a mere country-ſquire. However, he is merry and good-humoured; ſo that we enjoyed one another's company, in the beſt manner poſſible. M. Oeder ſeaſoned the converſation with an account of his travels in England; and the night being far ſpent, we retired to our reſpective apartments.

I have

I have now ſeen almoſt every thing that is curious in this city, and the neighbourhood, and muſt think of ſetting out from hence in a day or two for the dutchy of Mecklenburg. Captain H. called upon me to-day, to take his leave of me, and to know whether I had any commands for Copenhagen. He propoſes taking his paſſage in the packet-boat, which ſails once a fortnight for that capital; and preſſes me very much to be of the party. I own that if it was earlier in the ſeaſon, and the captain was not ſo intolerably vociferous, I ſhould have liked the propoſal, were it only to have the pleaſure of paying my reſpects to count Bothmar, who gave me an invitation to come and ſpend a month or two in Denmark, before I returned to London. But as it will be ſometime before the count can be in Copenhagen (for you know he is to attend the queen of Denmark from England) I ſhould be too late in the year, and be obliged to ſpend my winter in Denmark or Germany. My good friend M. Oeder propoſes leaving this city in a day or two, and after he has viſited a few more places in Holſtein, he expects to reach Copenhagen before the beginning of winter. He has alſo tempted me very much to take a trip to the Daniſh capital; flattering me with the hopes of finding ſome MS in the king's library, which would illuſtrate my deſign; but this is all an uncertainty, ſo that I cannot with any reaſon or prudence think of altering my original

original plan. I am now upon the borders of the dutchy of Mecklenburg, the ſeaſon is not too far advanced, and the weather is exceeding fine; I apprehend therefore it is my buſineſs to confine my expedition to the ſurvey of that province, and then make the beſt of my way back to England. I ſhall take the poſt-waggon from hence to Wiſmar, where I intend to make a ſhort ſtay, and from thence proceed to Roſtock. The ſcene I am entering upon is new; few or no Engliſh travellers have ever given any account of the dutchy of Mecklenburg; ſo that I hope I ſhall henceforward be able to furniſh you with variety of new matter. In the mean time, I wiſh you a good deal of diverſion in the country, and conclude with the uſual declaration of being,

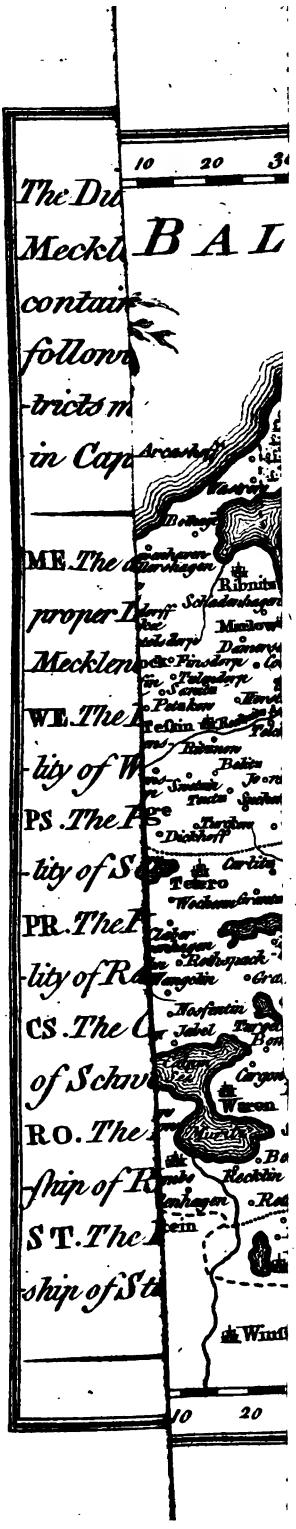
Dear Sir, yours, &c.

LETTER IV.

Wiſmar, September 9, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

I Left Lubeck, my favourite town, the 5th inſtant, after dining in company with my worthy friend M. Oeder, and returning him thanks for all his civilities. Having experienced the good effects of the poſt-waggon from Hamburg, I reſolved to go to Wiſmar in the like vehicle; and accordingly took place for this city, which is diſtant from Lubeck ſeven German, or about thirty, Engliſh miles. This carriage ſets out from Lubeck, in ſummer, on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, at five in the morning; but in winter, on Tueſdays and Fridays, at five in the evening, and returns on Tueſday and Friday morning. I paid for my perſon about five ſhillings and four pence, and for my trunk half a crown. The company were far from being diſagreeable; there was among the reſt a venerable clergyman, the rector of Ribnitz in Mecklenburg, with whom I had made a ſlender acquaintance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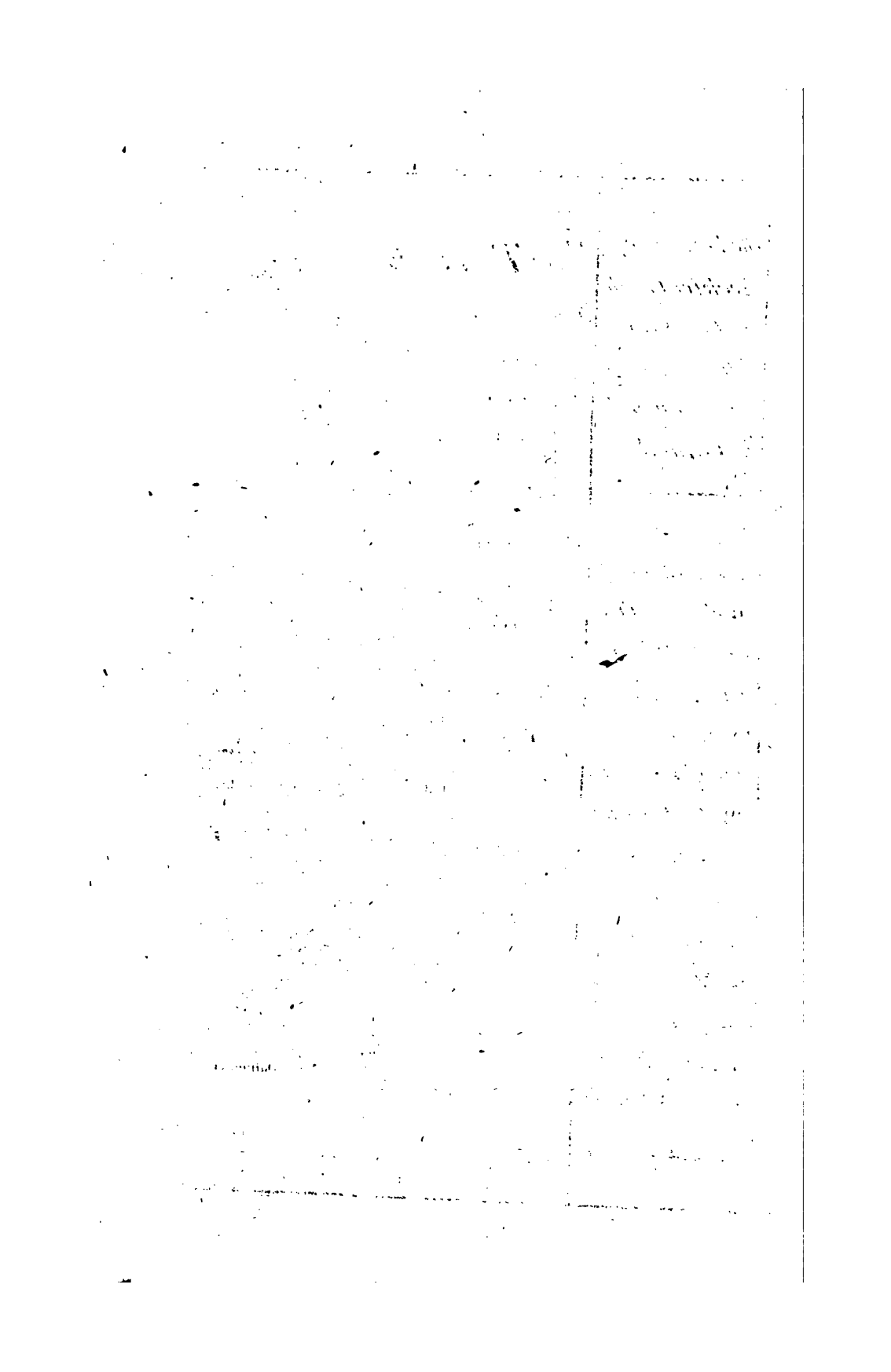

acquaintance at Lubeck. We ſet off about five, and paſſed by the Jeruſalem-berg on our left, and a pleaſant wood on the right, remarkable for a pretty village in the neighbourhood called Iſraelitedorff. The eveningwas fine, and the country looked exceeding pleaſant; but the road was all a deep ſand; a circumſtance which made it heavy travelling, till we came to Schlukup, a fiſhing village on the Trave, four miles from Lubeck. This is the boundary of that republic's territory; then turning out of the road of Travemunde, we entered the dutchy of Mecklenburg, by a ſlip of the principality of Ratzeburg, which belongs to the duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz. The road now grew worſe than ever, being encumbered with large rugged ſtones, which lay ſcattered about. Thus it continued all the way till we came to Daſſau, a town belonging to the duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin. The good parſon, and the other paſſengers, comforted themſelves with their pipes by the way, and with chanting religious ſongs. The poſt-waggon generally travels all night, but in ſome places it ſtops, like our ſtage-coaches, to give time for the paſſengers to eat their ſupper, and refreſh themſelves with moderate ſlumber. Daſſau in ſeveral maps is repreſented as a town, but it is only a village, in antient times known by the name of Darſau. It ſtands on a river called the Stopenis, which there forms a ſmall lake,

and

and runs into the Trave, in the neighbourhood of Travemunde, diſtant from hence but four Engliſh miles. In the hiſtory of Mecklenburg, Daſſau is famous for a caſtle belonging to the counts of Holſtein, which ſerved as a receptacle to a gang of banditti, who infeſted the highway, but was taken and razed to the ground, by an anceſtor of the preſent dukes of Mecklenburg, in 1262. As I knew that there was nothing to be ſeen in this village, I was the more eaſy for entering it in the night. The inn made a moſt wretched appearance; yet we met with pretty good accommodation. There were but two ſpare beds in the houſe, one of which was aſſigned to the clergyman, and the other to myſelf; the reſt of the company, and there were ſome gentlemen on horſeback, all lay upon ſtraw. This manner of lying is not ſo diſagreeable as you may imagine; I had often tried it before and never found it a hardſhip. I offered my bed to a Swediſh officer, who did not ſeem to be in a good ſtate of health; but he would by no means accept of it. The ſtraw is ſpread on the ground, and raiſed towards the head; over it they lay a ſheet, and a pillow for each traveller, and they all lie down in a row. The greateſt indelicacy is, that the women ſleep in the ſame room; but then they undreſs themſelves, that is, they take off their gowns only, in another apartment.

apartment. The room is always warmed to a proper degree, by means of the ſtove. The clergyman ſaid prayers before he retired, and the company all joined with him in an exemplary manner. We were come no more than twelve or fourteen Engliſh miles, yet was I tired with the jolting, as if I had travelled an hundred miles in England. Glad I was then to retire to my apartment, and lay my wearied bones down, recalling to my mind, the following beautiful lines of the poet, which I doubt not but, before I get back to England, will often recur to my thoughts.

As when a traveller, a long day paſt,
In painful ſearch of what he cannot find,
At night's approach, content with the next cot,
There ruminates a-while his labour loſt,
Then cheers his heart with what his fate affords,
And chants his ſonnets to deceive the time,
'Till the due ſeaſon calls him to repoſe*.

I was rouſed out of a profound ſleep, one of the greateſt hardſhips a traveller can undergo, between three and four; and after we had refreſhed ourſelves with coffee, which is the conſtant cuſtom in Germany, the horſes were put to, and

* Young's Night Thoughts.

we

we reſumed our journey. By the violent ſhaking of the vehicle, we found the road was ſtill very bad, but we could not as yet well diſtinguiſh the face of the country. The clergyman and the reſt of the company betook themſelves to their beloved tubes, in order to qualify the cold air.

Now morn, her roſy ſteps in the orient clime,
Advancing, ſow'd the earth with eaſtern pearl;

when the company knocked out their pipes, and they all began to chant their religious hymns with the greateſt devotion. The Swediſh officer ſang the beſt of them all; ſo that one would imagine him fitter to head a choir, than a body of ſoldiers. But I have been told, that the officers of that nation, in general, though celebrated for their courage, are not aſhamed to ſhew ſome external ſigns of religion. The ſun had now driven the riſing miſts away, and we could diſtinguiſh the country all round, which made a very good appearance. It was moſtly corn lands, with ſome woods at a diſtance. The road alſo grew a vaſt deal better; not that it ſeemed to be improved by human art; but it was ſo naturally from the goodneſs of the ſoil, unincumbered with pebbles and ſtones. We now jogged merrily on, and by eight o'clock reached the town

town of Greveſmuhlen, about eight miles from Daſſau.

Greveſmuhlen, in antient records, is ſtiled *Comitis Mola*, or the count's mill; but how it came to be ſo called, I cannot diſcover. The town is but ſmall, and indifferently built, having been often burnt down, and laſt of all in 1756. There is a gate at each end, but the walls have not as yet been quite rebuilt. The church belonging to the town was formerly very richly endowed, but the biſhop of Ratzeburg obtained a grant from the archbiſhop of Bremen in 1363, by which the revenues of this church were united to thoſe of Ratzeburg, in order to ſupport the biſhop's table. The count de Bothmar has a very good eſtate, five miles from hence, where his lady and mother reſide at preſent. There was a toll eſtabliſhed here by the dukes of Mecklenburg, in 1472, from which the Lubeckers, however, are exempt. The town has an Hanoverian garriſon, this being one of the places mortgaged to that electorate, for the expences incurred in executing the imperial commiſſion againſt Charles Leopold, duke of Mecklenburg. But of this tranſaction, and the preſent ſtate of the mortgage, perhaps, I ſhall give you a farther account another opportunity. We breakfaſted at the poſt-houſe, and after rambling a little about

the town, we again returned to our waggon. The road was very good, and continued ſo all the way to Wiſmar. The country looked beautiful, being a ſucceſſion of hills and dales, diverſified with lakes, meadows, woods and corn fields. By ten o'clock we got to Pluſkow, a pleaſant village, ſix miles from Greveſmuhlen. We had not travelled a mile farther, when the landſcape improved, and we had a delightful view of the ſea, and the town and haven of Wiſmar, at about five miles diſtance. The lofty ſpires of that city made a grand appearance, and the country to the right riſing in gentle eminences, gave it a very ſtrong reſemblance of England. We arrived at this city between twelve and one: my fellow-travellers, the clergyman, and the reſt, except the Swediſh officer, ſtaid only a few hours to refreſh themſelves, and went on to Roſtock; but as I intended to take a thorough ſurvey of the town, which would require a few days, I parted with them, and fixed my reſidence at a very good inn called the Poſt-horn, in the principal ſtreet, not far from the market-place.

Wiſmar is the chief town in the dutchy of Mecklenburg, next to Roſtock. The origin of it, like that of moſt great cities, is obſcure. Some pretend it takes its name from the words *Wiſche*, and *Moor*, ſignifying moraſſes and fens, among

among which it is ſituated; others deduce it from the German words *Wiſſe meer*, which imply a ſure harbour. Others again derive its name from Wiſimar, king of the Vandals, who is ſaid to have built a town or village on this ſpot, in the year 340. The magiſtrates have favoured the tradition, by the following inſcription over a window of the town-houſe: *Hæc civitas condita eſt a Wiſmaro.* The old town was afterwards deſtroyed, and out of its ruins, together with thoſe of the neighbouring city of Mecklenburg, was formed in the 13th century, the preſent town of Wiſmar. This honour is commonly attributed to Gunzelinus III. count of Schwerin, tho' others have refuted that opinion, and made John the Theologian, one of the anceſtors of the preſent duke, the chief reſtorer of Wiſmar. By the conveniency of the haven, Wiſmar roſe in proceſs of time to command an extenſive commerce, and even to be included among the Hanſe towns. At the treaty of Weſtphalia, it was ceded to the Swedes, together with the iſland of Poel, and the bailiwic of New Cloſter. The Swedes took great pains to fortify it; the ſituation, indeed, contributed to its ſtrength, being ſurrounded on one ſide by the ſea, and on the other by a moraſs: it was reckoned the Dunkirk of the North, till the year 1717, when it was diſmantled by the Danes and

Pruſſians, to whom it had been obliged to ſurrender, the preceding year. In this condition it was afterwards reſtored to the Swedes, in whoſe poſſeſſion it ſtill continues.

Notwithſtanding ſo many revolutions, Wiſmar is ſtill a good handſome town, and well deſerving a ſtranger's curioſity. I was recommended here to M. Boltenſtern, a learned and ingenious gentleman, who bears the title of ſecretary to the government of Wiſmar. He was ſo polite as to introduce me into the beſt companies, and to aſſiſt me in gaining every neceſſary information.

The ſtreets of Wiſmar are pretty regular, the houſes well built, but not very high; they have all pyramidical tops; and, what I reckon a horrid nuiſance, the ſpouts project into the middle of the ſtreet. The town is not at all populous, trade being at a very low ebb; ſo that graſs grows even in the great market-place. One piece of vanity I obſerved, is, that gentlemen never walk abroad, without a ſervant to attend them; and this is the practice through the whole dutchy of Mecklenburg. They ſeldom wear neckcloths, but black crapes about their necks. Another ſingular cuſtom they have, of walking about the town in boots, which is practiſed by gentlemen, as well as by the common people, and may be convenient in rain and ſnow, but ſeems troubleſome

ſome in fine weather. With regard to the ladies, I obſerved nothing particular, but their mourning dreſs, which is very deep indeed; their forehead is covered with black crape; and when they go abroad, they wear a crape veil, which hides their faces.

The town-houſe is large, and makes a handſome appearance on the outſide; but within there is nothing worth ſeeing. The market-place, where it ſtands, is ſpacious and well built. Over-againſt it is a handſome fountain, with the following inſcription:

Anno Domini noſtri Jeſu Chriſti 1661, *ſtructura hæcce exſtitit Anno Dominico . . . συν Θεω S. P. Q. W. Joannes Tritze de Heiderstorf Miſniæ oppido oriundus fontem feliciter aperuit. Soli Deo ſit gloria, ſint gratiæ ſoli Deo. Hanc civitatem is protegat, concordia ſemper beet.*

The whole concluded with theſe verſes:

Dulcis aquæ dum permultis urgebat ab annis
Wiſmariam, finis neſcia, pauperies;
Vidimus advehier zythi coctoribus undas
Ex puteis parvo, at ſæpius ære gravi.
Nil igitur non cura patrum tentavit, ut eſſet
Civibus haud ſalſæ copia major aquæ.
Pars his conſuluit puteis accerſere lymphas,
Pars ex Schwerini nititur arte lacu.
At licet eximiis rem ſumptibus aggrederetur,
Deſtitit, incaſſum dum labor omnis abit.

Sed patrum O miſerate Deus conamina nobis
Nunc te dante fluit fons ſalientis aquæ.
Hunc tu clementi poſthac bonitate perennem
Wiſmariæ ſerves: hancce tibi hoſpitium.
Namque hac ſtructura ceu civibus affluit unda,
Hos tibi ſic gratos percupimuſque pios.

There are three principal churches in Wiſmar, St. Mary's, St. Nicholas's, and St. George's. St. Mary's is a fine Gothic building, decorated with a very high ſteeple, from whence there is a beautiful proſpect of the town, the adjacent country, and the Baltic. I mentioned in my firſt volume of Vandalia, that there is an iron rail round the front of this church, reckoned an excellent piece of workmanſhip; but this is a miſtake, which I copied from other writers; and whatever there may have been formerly, there is no ſuch rail extant at preſent. I had the curioſity to go to the top of the ſteeple, but the ſteps or ladders are ſo perpendicular, that I paid dear for my curioſity, for I am not yet recovered from the exceſſive fatigue I ſuſtained in climbing. The proſpect, indeed, was amazingly fine; but though I got up by myſelf, I was obliged to have a man to aſſiſt me in deſcending, being in danger every ſtep of tumbling down. The inſide of the church is ornamented in the Lutheran way, with variety of images and ſepulchral monuments, and the ciëling is remarkably

ably handſome. The other two churches are likewiſe Gothic buildings; none of them are kept clean, and what gave me great offence, was, that the columns or pillars were not plaiſtered over, but naked to the very brick. In St. George's I ſaw the figure of a large dragon, done to the life, which is much admired; the ſteeple was beat down in the laſt ſiege.

From the churches I went to ſee the caſtle, which was built in the beginning of the laſt century by the two brothers, John Albert and Adolphus Frederick, dukes of Mecklenburg. The greateſt part of it is in ruins, and what remains is not kept in the beſt order. Over the gate is an inſcription almoſt intirely defaced, and I could only make out the words, *Joannes Albertus ſumptibuſque.* In this caſtle the Swedes keep the archives of their German territories; and here alſo they hold a court of judicature, to which they give the pompous name of *Summum regium tribunal Wiſmarienſe.* The preſident of this tribunal is the baron de Schwerin, a very able magiſtrate. He has under him a vice-preſident, and ſix aſſeſſors. They have alſo a conſiſtory in this town, for eccleſiaſtical affairs; and a gymnaſium, or public ſchool, under the direction of eight maſters. Secretary Boltenſtern had given previous notice of my coming to Mr. Kutemeir, librarian and regiſter of the archives, who politely attended to ſhew us the apartments. Here we ſaw

a few paintings, not at all remarkable, except a picture of Charles Guſtavus, king of Sweden, which is admirably well done. From the apartments of the tribunal, we proceeded to the archives, where we found a great number of records, all in very good order. I had the curioſity to look into ſeveral, but they moſtly related to the affairs of Sweden. The adjoining library is a very large room, well ſtocked with books, but chiefly relating to the law. The founder of it was the celebrated Mevius, a learned civilian in the laſt century, who bequeathed his books to the public uſe. His picture is hung up in the room, from a grateful regard to his memory.

Upon my return with M. Boltenſtern to the Poſt-horn, I found that a Mecklenburg gentleman had been inquiring for me, who ſtiled himſelf the baron de Hobe, ſeigneur de Warbelow. He was here upon an excurſion with M. de Brand, grand veneur, or great huntſman to the duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin. As his lodging was at no great diſtance, I ſent my compliments to him, acquainting him with my return, and that I ſhould be glad to ſee him at the Poſt-horn, or wait upon him at his lodging, according as he ſhould think proper. The baron came in a little time, and addreſſed me in very good Engliſh, expreſſing great pleaſure at ſeeing a Britiſh ſubject in that part of the world.

He had been two or three years in England, where he married an Engliſh lady, of very great beauty, and virtue; but who unfortunately died about a fortnight ago in child-bed. I could not help being affected with this melancholy circumſtance, which ſeemed to ſpread a deep gloom over his countenance. He had one daughter who was very young; but ſo diſconſolate was he for the loſs of his lady, that he could not bear the ſight of home, and he had been adviſed by his friends to ramble in order to diſſipate his melancholy. Having ſome affairs to ſettle at Wiſmar, he had made this his firſt excurſion, and the very next day he deſigned to ſet out for England. Juſt when he had finiſhed his melancholy ſtory, M. de Brand, the grand veneur, came in; and immediately changing the converſation, propoſed a bowl of punch. This M. de Brand is a boon companion, whoſe whole time is ſpent in riding about, and ſacrificing at the altar of Bacchus. The baron de Hobe agreed to the propoſal, and made the punch himſelf, being uſed to that compoſition in England. Secretary Boltenſtern, who never had taſted any ſuch beverage, ſeemed to be much pleaſed with it. By nine, an elegant ſupper was ready, the glaſs went briſkly round, when the good baron ſeemed to put on a chearful aſpect, and to follow the grand veneur's

neur's advice, in giving ſorrow to the wind. His converſation chiefly turned on the pleaſure he had enjoyed in England, adding, that if his affairs would permit him, he ſhould be glad to ſpend the remainder of his days in that happy country. When the company broke up, which was pretty late, he went with me to my room, to give me a direction where to write to him in England, which was at Copehole's, in Suffolk ſtreet. He then fell again into chit-chat, and the idea of his late lady reviving, he expatiated on her charms, till he burſt out into a flood of tears. At length the watchman's loud cry of one o'clock obliged him to depart, after great profeſſions of friendſhip on each ſide. But I had not been an hour in bed, when I was rouſed out of my ſleep by a loud thundering at the door, and found it was the baron's ſervant, who was come back for his maſter's hat. I was obliged to get up, and, after wiſhing his maſter a good journey, I attempted to compoſe myſelf once more; but was fain to paſs the whole night in broken ſlumbers.

The next day ſecretary Boltenſtern called upon me, to complain of the punch, which he ſaid had given him a head-ach; but I believe it was his mixing champagne and other liquors, that occaſioned his diſorder. Foreigners have a notion that punch is a very ſtrong beverage, not reflecting that it is a compoſition which may

may be lowered to what degree you pleaſe. To remove the ſecretary's head-ach, I propoſed taking a walk to the key, and viewing the harbour. This was very acceptable, and the ſecretary ſaid he would call upon M. Aſhberg, a Swediſh gentleman, ſurveyor of the port of Wiſmar, who would make one of the party. I had been in company with M. Aſhberg before, at the Poſt-horn, and knew him to be a moſt agreeable gentleman. He ordered us a boat well manned, and propoſed taking a trip to the iſle of Poel. We agreed to it, for ſuch trips made part of my general plan; and after we had been joined by ſome more gentlemen, among the reſt by two Swediſh officers, one of whom had been in England, and ſpoke very good Engliſh, we ſet off upon our expedition. The key of Wiſmar is very pleaſant; there is no tide in the Baltic, ſo that the water is always of the ſame depth. Veſſels of burthen cannot come up to the town, the water being but eight feet deep; but we ſaw ſeveral men at work to deepen it, if poſſible, to twelve feet. There were but a few ſmall craft then before the town, and not above a ſhip or two in the harbour. In ſhort, there is a total ſtagnation of trade, though the haven is one of the beſt and ſafeſt in the Baltic. I do not ſee of what great utility this place is now to the Swedes, as they have no territory belonging to

to it, and the fortifications are intirely demoliſhed. Formerly, indeed, when it was a good fortreſs, and they were maſters of the dutchies of Bremen and Verden, it might have been of ſome ſervice to that nation, being the centre of government for their German dominions. But as they are now reduced to only a part of Pomerania, they might very well part with Wiſmar; for Stralſund would ſufficiently ſecure their communication with Germany. I have been informed that the duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin is about purchaſing this town back again of the crown of Sweden. This would be worth his while, becauſe it is in the very center of his country. A trade from hence might be opened between Mecklenburg and the northern crowns, which Sweden, at preſent, does not encourage. It ſeems to be the policy of modern nations to rule their conquered provinces with a rod of iron. The inhabitants of this city complain that all lucrative employments are in the hands of foreigners; that the country is oppreſſed by Swediſh troops; that the intereſt of the natives is neglected; and commercial improvements abſolutely diſcouraged. I will not pretend to ſay how far this may be true; but it is certain that the people of Wiſmar are in a moſt wretched condition. I make no doubt but they would be glad to return under the dominion of their ancient and natural lords

the

the dukes of Mecklenburg, who would acquire thereby a conſiderable acceſſion of wealth and power. The ſecularizing of the biſhopric of Schwerin, in their favour, at the treaty of Weſtphalia, was no equivalent for Wiſmar, which may properly be ſtiled the key of Mecklenburg.

But to return to our expedition: we ſoon paſſed the boom, or entrance of the key, which is ſhut up every night like that of Hamburg; and we rowed to a bank of ſand, at a ſmall diſtance, where formerly ſtood the famous fortreſs or caſtle called the Whale, which was demoliſhed with the reſt of the fortifications in 1717: we went a-ſhore, and dined upon our own proviſions, at a poor little public-houſe, which affords only accommodations for fiſhermen. Here we ſaw ſome of the ruins of the fort, which commanded the entrance of the harbour. The wind being fair, we hoiſted ſail, and proceeded to the iſland of Poel, about four miles from Wiſmar; we found the iſland a pleaſant place, and tolerably well inhabited; towards duſk we got back to town, greatly delighted with our excurſion, and adjourned to the Poſt-horn, where we ſupped and concluded the evening. In the midſt of our entertainment, one of the company, Dr. Burmeiſter, a learned antiquarian, took an opportunity of congratulating the dutchy of Mecklenburg, on its happy connexion with England, by means of her majeſty's auſpici-

ous

ous nuptials. He then expatiated in the queen's praiſe, and called on the company to drink proſperity to Great Britain and Mecklenburg. He farther obſerved, that it was natural for the two nations to have a regard for each other, ſince the Angli, from whom the Engliſh are deſcended, came originally from this part of Germany. This propoſition raiſed the attention of the company, and the doctor, continuing the argument, attempted to prove, that the Angli were a people who dwelled on this part of the Baltic, and were afterwards invited over to Britain. Tacitus, he ſaid, is the firſt that mentions them by name; *poſt Albim ſupra Cimbros, Reudigni, Aviones, Angli, Varini.* As the Angli were joined in their expedition by the Saxons, they muſt have bordered upon the latter, whom Ptolemy places upon the neck of the *Cherſoneſus Cimbrica.* This fixes the ſituation of the Varini and the Angli; the former inhabiting that part of the dutchy of Mecklenburg, which extends along the banks of the Warnow; and the latter the remaining part of the country as far as Lubeck*. Such a diſplay of erudition was at firſt productive of ſurprize, but afterwards created a good deal of merriment; the company wiſhing me joy, that the doctor had proved the Mecklenburghers and the Engliſh to be one and the ſame nation. The doctor being perfectly well verſed in ancient geography, did not chuſe to

* This is alſo the opinion of Cluverius.

drop

drop his favourite ſubject, but entered upon the antiquities of Wiſmar, in order to ſhew that this city is the ἑτερα Μαριωνις, or the ſecond Marione, mentioned by Ptolemy, and that Hamburgh is the firſt. His conjecture was founded on Ptolemy's placing the ſecond Marione at the very beginning of the *Sinus Codanus*, or Baltic ſea, a ſituation which can agree with no haven ſo well as that of Wiſmar. The converſation, at length, growing too ſerious, M. Aſhberg called for another ſubject; and one of the Swediſh officers, who, as I mentioned to you before, ſpoke very good Engliſh, ſung the following hymn in praiſe of Woden, the God of War, tranſlated out of the Edda into Latin, by Bartholine, and from thence into Engliſh.

We, with ſwords, our valour prov'd;
This my laughter always mov'd.
When with Woden I ſhall be,
Seats ſhall be prepar'd for me;
There our ale in brimmers flows,
And the hollow ſkulls of foes
For our pitchers we ſhall chooſe.
No brave man e'er ſhrinks at Death:
When I once reſign my breath,
No deſpairing words ſhall flow,
That reluctantly I go
To great Woden's court below.

With

With the dead I long to be:
Now the Dyſæ * beckon me;
Whom great Woden from his hall
Sent, and ordered me to call.
In the As'ſ † lofty houſe
I ſhall ſit, and ale carouſe.
Hours of life already fly,
Let me laugh, and laughing die.

The company were pleaſed with the tune, which was very martial; but as they did not underſtand the words, he ſung a German ſong, the purport of which was,

War is toil and trouble,
Honour but an empty bubble.

This ſpread a vein of joy through all the company; each ſung in his turn, till it was time to retire, and all parted in perfect friendſhip and harmony.

The day following I went with a Swediſh officer to view the ruins of the old fortifications, which made ſo great a figure in the beginning of this century. They were demoliſhed in ſo effectual a manner, that ſcarce any veſtiges of them are remaining, only we could diſcern ſome traces of the ditches. There is ſtill a

* The Dyſæ were inferior goddeſſes, the meſſengers of the great Woden.

† As, or Aſus, was another name for Woden, among the ancient Germans, and ſignified the Deity by way of excellence.

good

good deal of ſtagnating water in the neighbourhood, beſides two rivulets that diſcharge themſelves, one on the right and the other on the left ſide, into the harbour. The officer was well acquainted with the art of engineering, and could tell the name of every out-work and baſtion that formerly belonged to this city. There were ſixteen out-works, and fourteen baſtions: the latter had the pompous names of Ericus, Scipio, Alaricus, Veſpaſianus, Guſtavus Adolphus, Alexander Magnus, Carolus XI. Julius Cæſar, Carolus Guſtavus, Auguſtus, Hannibal, Cyrus, Guſtavus I.

The Swedes, at preſent, have but a ſmall garriſon in Wiſmar, not above three companies of foot. They are ſtout looking fellows, but not very tall; their uniform is much like the Pruſſian's, ſhort blue coats, the ſleeves turned up with red, and broad white belts of buff leather. The officers are moſt of them well made men, remarkable for complaiſance and genteel behaviour.

Though the inhabitants of Wiſmar are under the Swediſh government, they have not acquired either the manners or language of that nation, but remain conformable in both thoſe reſpects to the reſt of the natives of Mecklenburg. The language is the ſame as that ſpoken at Hamburg and Lubeck, which they diſtinguiſh by the name of Plat Deutch, or Low Dutch, and bears a great reſemblance to the Anglo-Saxon, as you

may find upon comparing it with Junius's Anglo-Saxon goſpels, and other Anglo-Saxon books. I was ſurprized not to find a coffee-houſe in Wiſmar, and no more than one book-ſeller's ſhop; but they have ſeveral taverns where they meet in clubs, much after the Engliſh manner. I ſpent a couple of hours at one of them this evening, after I had been with my friend the ſecretary, to ſee the water-works, or the machine by which water is conveyed to the different parts of the town. The machine is ingenious, and worthy of a traveller's curioſity; it is in a little tower, towards the ſkirts of the town. When I came to the club, I found the company very genteel and ſociable. M. Boltenſtern wanted me to ſtay in Wiſmar ſome days longer; but as this is not a place likely to afford any materials towards my hiſtory, I begged to be excuſed, and propoſe ſetting out to-morrow. I have made ſome alteration in my plan, for I intended to have gone from hence directly to Roſtock; but the ſecretary having ſome buſineſs at Schwerin, has preſſed me to be of the party. I have agreed to his propoſal for two reaſons; one, that I ſhall have an opportunity of viſiting the ſpot on which ſtood the ancient city of Mecklenburg, in the road between Wiſmar and Schwerin; the other, that in my way from Schwerin to Roſtock, I ſhall paſs through the town of Butzow, where an univerſity has been lately founded by the preſent

preſent duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin. Beſides, I am informed that profeſſor Æpinus, one of the moſt learned men in Mecklenburg, is now at Butzow; and I have ſtrong recommendations to that gentleman. The ſecretary takes me with him in his own carriage, which is an open phaeton, ſo that I ſhall make this little journey without the jolting of the poſt-waggon, and ſtill have the ſatisfaction of viewing the country. Adieu! I have no more room left, but juſt to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Dear Sir, yours, &c.

LETTER V.

Butzow, September 15, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

IN my laſt I acquainted you with my reſolution of viſiting this town, before I went to Roſtock; and I am very glad I did, as I have had the pleaſure of meeting here with profeſſor Æpinus, with whom it has been my particular ambition to be acquainted.

The tenth inſtant, at nine in the morning, I ſet out from Wiſmar for Schwerin, in company with my good friend ſecretary Boltenſtern. The diſtance between the two cities is four German, or ſixteen Engliſh, miles. The road is very good, indeed by much the beſt I have ſeen in this part of Germany. Yet we drove but ſlowly, for we did not reach Mecklenburg, which is only one German mile from Wiſmar, till half an hour after ten. The inhabitants of this country very ſeldom either drive or ride faſt, but move almoſt with Spaniſh gravity. The country through which we paſſed, was beautiful and well cultivated, forming a gradual aſcent up to Mecklenburg. I had heard and read ſo much of this once famous city, that I propoſed ſtopping ſome time to view the ſituation, and to inquire whether there were any ruins worthy of notice. The ſecretary was glad to oblige me, and told me he would introduce me to the duke's ſteward. Accordingly we waited upon him, and were received with great courteſy and politeneſs. Being made acquainted with the motive of my journey, he offered us his ſervice in every thing in his power; but as for ruins he could ſhew us none, for there were none remaining. The village does not contain above a dozen cottages, beſides the ſteward's houſe, which is a tolerable neat building. On the other ſide of

the road, upon a riſing ground, embowered in trees, ſtands an ancient church, with a diminutive ſpire; and not far from thence runs a purling ſtream, forming all together a venerable and romantic appearance.

My friend and I ſurveyed every part of the adjacent ground, but could find no veſtiges of walls, or ancient buildings, nor any other appearance by which we could conclude this to have been the ſite of a city of ſuch repute. But what ſurprized me, was there being no river or navigable ſtream, to a place renowned for its extenſive commerce. This brought a conjecture to my mind, that the ſouth part of the city might have terminated in this ſpot; but that the buildings extended northward from hence to Wiſmar, which in all probability was the haven of Mecklenburg. My reaſon for this opinion was, that ſuch a commerce could hardly be carried on without a navigable ſtream, and that Wiſmar is not mentioned in hiſtory (and I pay no great regard to traditions) till after the ruin of Mecklenburg. From thence a preſumption ariſes, that they were not two diſtinct cities, but that the part bordering on the ſea aſſumed the name of Wiſmar, when the remaining part, where formerly ſtood the regal palace, fell to decline. But this I give only as a conjecture.

Mecklenburg, though now an inſignificant village, was once a powerful metropolis, and the reſidence of the kings of the Obotrites. Like many other ſeats of empire, it has undergone ſtrange revolutions, but it ſtill gives name to one of the moſt reſpectable families in Germany. The origin of it is involved in fable; but it muſt be of great antiquity, ſince vulgar tradition attributes it to Anthyrius the firſt, king of the Vandals. It is ſaid to have been twenty miles in circumference, from whence, according to ſome authors, it took its name of Magnopolis or Megapolis. The firſt mention we find of it in hiſtory, is in Adam of Bremen, who wrote in the 11th century, and calls it Mecklenburg. With great probability ſome writers derive that name from the old word *Mechlin*, to trade; the ſituation ſo near the Baltic being very advantageous for commerce. Mechlin, in Brabant, appears to have been denominated from the ſame origin; and this word is ſtill uſed in that ſignification, in the North-ſea, and in the towns of the Hanſeatic alliance. As ſo large a city could not be conveniently encompaſſed with walls, three caſtles were erected to keep the inhabitants in awe, and to ſerve for a defence upon the approach of an enemy. Two of theſe were in the extreme parts of the town, and the third was the palace of their ancient monarchs. I remember to have mentioned

mentioned in my Vandalia*, that on the ſame ſpot there is ſtill a caſtle, known by the name of Mecklenburg, where a governor appointed by the duke uſually reſides. But I was mis-informed, for there is no caſtle, nor governor, but only the bailiff abovementioned, who lives in a common dwelling-houſe. This great city continued to flouriſh under its own ſovereigns till 1162, when a cruſade, or religious war, being ſet on foot againſt the Venedi, Henry the Lion, duke of Saxony and Bavaria, who was at the head of the cruſade, wreſted it from king Pribiſlaus II. and granted it to one of his captains, named Henry de Scaten. Pribiſlaus retook it by ſtorm in 1164, but not being able to keep poſſeſſion of it againſt the ſuperior force of the cruſaders, rather than deliver it up again to the enemy, he ſet it on fire, and levelled it to the ground. Upon the reconciliation of Henry the Lion and Pribiſlaus, it was rebuilt by this laſt king of the Obotrites in 1170; but it never could recover its ancient ſplendor, and upon the founding or enlarging of Wiſmar in the 13th century, it ſunk inſenſibly into a village.

Struck with the fate of this metropolis, I ſat myſelf down on a bench in the church-yard, with my friend the ſecretary, and began to indulge a kindly mood of melancholy. "How

* P. 400.

is the mighty Mecklenburg fallen, and its proud battlements and lofty ſpires levelled to the ground! The palaces of kings, whoſe ſway extended along the wide coaſts of the Baltic, are diſſolved into duſt; and bleating ſheep now graze in thoſe fields, which were once filled with ſpacious ſtreets, and magnificent buildings. The buſy ſcene of commerce, which ſpread the ſweets of affluence over an induſtrious land, is changed into a gloomy ſolitude; and lofty oaks, or high-ſpreading pines, occupy the place of magazines of opulent merchants. How tottering the foundations of human grandeur! How fleet, how tranſient the ſchemes of ſtability of empire! Where are now the trophies of ſo many potent ſtates, which filled the world with the blaze of their conqueſts? What is become of Nineveh, the capital of the Aſſyrians, that *exceeding great city of three days journey?* Where are the remains of Babylon, ſo famed for her ſtately palaces, her high walls, and hanging-gardens? Does not corn now grow where once ſtood the mighty city of Troy, ſo renowned in Grecian ſtory? Can we trace the remains of Carthage, who maintained ſo long a conteſt with Rome for the empire of the world? Are not Tyre and Sparta bare names of cities famed, the one for commerce, the other for arms? Rome, even Rome herſelf, the miſtreſs of the world, is fallen, her majeſty is vaniſhed, her curule

curule chairs are broke, and barbarian conquerors have carried off the Roman ſtandards.

Illa viris armiſque potens, tot nomina faſtis
Quæ dedit, et ſuperis par prope Roma fuit.
Majeſtas cecidit, ſellæ cecidere curules,
Barbaries victrix Itala ſigna tulit."

I was going on with my reverie, when the ſecretary interrupted me, by obſerving that ſuch revolutions were not at all ſurprizing, but founded in nature: that no earthly being whatever has any ſtability, but is perpetually undergoing ſome change, from its beginning to its final period. God alone being ſelf-exiſtent and eternal, is exempt from mutability; but all things created, whether animate or inanimate, are from their very internal formation ſubject to corruption. The natural property of every thing in this world is, that whatever is generated, muſt paſs thro' the changes of growth, corruption, and death; and as plants and animals are ſubject to theſe gradual mutations, till they inſenſibly periſh; ſo empires, kingdoms, republics, and cities, muſt pay the ſame tribute to nature, be ſubject to the like changes, and, from a ſtate of full growth, experience a gradual decline, till they are brought to their final diſſolution.

So

So revolves the ſcene;
So time ordains, who rolls the things of pride
From duſt again to duſt.

And as the natural body, either of men or beaſts, is brought to its diſſolution by various cauſes, but chiefly by infirmities and diſeaſes; ſo the body politic, either of a ſtate or city, is deſtroyed, either by internal diſeaſes, ſuch as the corruption and diſcord of the people, the imprudence of governors, the tyranny of princes, &c. or by external or adventitious evils, ſuch as foreign arms, or the calamities of fire, inundations, and earthquakes. That the truth of theſe obſervations was aſcertained by the hiſtory of all ages, and (without mentioning the ruin of inferior ſtates, as Athens, Sparta, &c.) by the ſubverſion of the four great monarchies of the Aſſyrians, Perſians, Greeks, and Romans. Kingdoms and cities are the works of man; and the works of man are all ſubject to mortality. We live in the midſt of periſhable beings, and it frequently happens that what has required the labour of many years to erect, is deſtroyed in one day, nay in one hour, one inſtant, either by the barbarity of an enemy, or by ſome other unavoidable calamity.—Here I expected the ſecretary would have finiſhed; but he begged leave to mention a paſſage that occurred to him, concerning our preſent ſubject, from a letter of Servius Sulpicius to Cicero, upon

upon the death of his daughter Tullia. "On my return from Aſia, as I was ſailing from Ægina towards Megara, I began to contemplate the proſpect of the countries around me. Ægina was behind; Megara before me; Piræus on the right; Corinth on the left: all which towns, once famous and flouriſhing, now lie overturned and buried in their ruins. Upon this ſight, I could not but think preſently within myſelf, Alas! how do we poor mortals fret and vex ourſelves, if any of our friends happen to die, or to be killed, whoſe life is yet ſo ſhort, when the carcaſſes of ſo many noble cities lie here expoſed before me in one view?"

Having thus ſufficiently lamented the fate of ancient Mecklenburg, we returned to the ſteward, who inſiſted on our accepting of a little refreſhment with him; after which we took leave of that gentleman, and mounted our phaeton.

About one o'clock we bad adieu to the village of Mecklenburg, and by three arrived at a hamlet called Zickhuſe, eight miles from Wiſmar. They reckon by computed miles, over this whole dutchy; but I believe one of their miles, in general, makes ſix Engliſh. We dined here at a wretched inn, where they had no wine, but only very bad beer and brandy. By five o'clock we reached a village called Kirchſtieck, ſituated in a moſt pleaſant country. From thence we paſſed through a fine foreſt be-

belonging to the duke, and on our right we ſaw a ſmall lake, and a very good houſe, the ſeat of baron Bulow. Soon after ſix we had ſight of the lake of Schwerin, whoſe fertile banks are chequered with woods and lawns. The reſt of the way to Schwerin afforded us an exalted pleaſure, the whole proſpect being enchantingly variegated with fields, meadows, woods and water. By ſeven we reached that town, and took up our quarters at one Preuſſes's, who keeps a houſe of public accommodation in the ſtreet leading to the caſtle.

Upon our arrival, I found that his highneſs the duke reſided conſtantly at Ludwigſluſt, a country palace about fifteen miles from hence; but that his brother prince Lewis and princeſs Charlotte were in the caſtle of Schwerin; and that her brother, the prince of Saxe-Coburg, was here upon a viſit. The young prince her ſon was gone three days before to Lauſanne, with his governor, the baron d'Iſemburg, a gentleman of Swediſh Pomerania: and he propoſes making his ſtudies in that city, under the title of the count of Schwerin. The dutcheſs and princeſs Ulrica, as I mentioned to you in a former letter, are at Hamburg. It was not my intention to wait upon any of the ſerene family, till I had been at Strelitz, where I hoped to have letters of recommendation to the court of Schwerin. While ſupper was getting ready, the ſecretary and I took a turn about the town,

town, which by reaſon of an annual fair held at that time, we found crowded with people. I obſerved that all the houſes were pyramidical, and moſt of them adorned with weather-cocks. In our way home I ſaw a gentleman's houſe wide open, and having the curioſity to look in, I perceived in a back room a corpſe lying in ſtate, with a vaſt number of wax-lights ſet round it, and a very decent woman to attend it, dreſſed in white like a nun. Upon inquiry, I find that funerals are very expenſive in this country, and ſtand greatly in need of a ſumptuary law. We got to our inn by dark, and after ſupper, withdrew to our bedchambers. I aroſe early the next morning, and finding that the ſecretary would be taken up with buſineſs, reſolved to ſtroll about the town, and to ſee as much as I could that day, intending to ſet out the day following in the poſt-waggon for Butzow. For deſigning to ſtay ſome time at Schwerin upon my return, I thought no unneceſſary delay was to be made in getting to Strelitz: I ſhall therefore defer giving you a deſcription of Schwerin till I come back to that capital, when I hope to be able to take a full view of it, and its ſeveral curioſities. In the morning I went out of town to the windmill on a neighbouring hill, from whence I had a full proſpect of the lake and town, and really think the ſituation is one of the moſt pleaſant in Europe. From thence I

re-

returned into town by the Schelf, a name given to the new town, and ſaw the handſome church erected in 1711, by duke Frederick William, where he has built a new vault for the ducal family. Thence I went to ſee the Dome, a fine Gothic building. As it was not my plan to make any acquaintance in this city, till my return from Strelitz, I declined accepting an invitation from a friend of the ſecretary. After dinner I went to ſee the caſtle, juſt as prince Lewis, princeſs Charlotte, and the prince of Coburg, were going to take an airing. The duke's ſoldiers are well looking men, dreſſed exactly like the Pruſſians, in ſhort blue coats, and ſleeves turned up with red. One Fellart, an old ſervant belonging to the dutcheſs, introduced me into the apartments; but a gentleman, called ſecretary Mithoff, was ſent for to ſhew me the gallery of pictures, and the cabinet of rarities. M. Mithoff walked with me afterwards into the garden, which I found moſt beautifully laid out; and he aſſured me that the prince and princeſs Charlotte would be glad to ſee me, as ſoon as they were returned from their airing. I told him that I was very ſorry I was obliged to ſet out directly for Butzow, but ſhould take another opportunity of paying my reſpects to their highneſſes. The poſt-waggon for Butzow was to depart that very afternoon. One thing I took notice of in honour of Mecklenburg, that the old

ſervant

ſervant who ſhewed me the apartments, would not accept of a preſent, telling me his highneſs did not permit any ſuch mercenary cuſtom. Upon my return to the inn, I had juſt time to take leave of my good friend ſecretary Boltenſtern, and got into the poſt-waggon by four o'clock. We were to travel all night, but it was very fine weather, and I had prepared myſelf againſt the worſt. Our company were three young gentlemen going to the univerſity of Butzow, and an officer whoſe regiment was quartered at Roſtock. Coming out of Schwerin, we left a fine road on our right, which we were told was the way to Ludwigſluſt, and had been lately made for the duke's private uſe. The road we took was pretty good. We ſoon left the lake of Schwerin on our left; then paſſing a bridge, where we paid a toll, we aſcended a high hill, and found the road ſomewhat rugged. Upon the ſummit of the hill we had an extenſive proſpect of a beautiful valley, laid out in meadow lands, and well ſtocked with cattle. After we had traverſed the valley, we mounted another eminence, higher than the former, from whence we had a fine view of a romantic country, conſiſting chiefly of foreſt lands. By ſix o'clock we arrived at Pinnow, a pleaſant village ſituated on a ſmall lake, at the diſtance of about eight miles from Schwerin. Here we ſtopped to take ſome refreſhment, and then proceeded on our journey. The road for the remainder

mainder of the way, as far as Butzow, is exceeding good. By nine o'clock we came to a ſtage, called the hunting-houſe, which was only an inn, ſix miles from Pinnow; and by one in the morning we entered the village of Ventzkow, ſix miles from the hunting-houſe. Here we got out of our vehicle, being obliged to change carriage with the poſt-waggon that comes from Roſtock. As we were told it would be almoſt day-break before the other carriage would come, we took ſome refreſhment, and laid ourſelves down comfortably on beds of clean ſtraw. In a little more than three hours, we were awaked with the noiſe of the other poſt-waggon. I thought we were to ſet out directly, but the young gentlemen would have coffee, which was brought us. You cannot conceive what a quantity of coffee they drink in this country, but I do not find it does them any prejudice. It is true they drink a good deal of brandy beſides; for at every public-houſe they call for drams. Their houſes of entertainment on the road, are very like thoſe in Weſtphalia; they have no chimneys, but the ſmoke goes out at the door; only I do not find that the cattle and the people lie all in the ſame room, after the manner of Weſtphalia. There is hardly a drop of wine to be had upon the road, and ſeldom any victuals except bread, cheeſe, and bacon. It is true, the towns are no great diſtance from one another

ther, ſo that the hardſhip a traveller undergoes is not of long continuance. At five we mounted our waggon, and by day-break we ſaw before us a moſt delightful country. Woods, hills, dales, and verdant meadows, diſplayed themſelves to our view, exhibiting a variety of beautiful landſcapes. By ſeven we arrived at Sternberg, ſix miles from Wentſchkow, and alighted at the poſt-houſe.

Sternberg is a ſmall town of the dutchy of Mecklenburg, and principality of Wenden, ſituated on a lake, nearly in the center of the province, and commanding a pleaſant proſpect. This is a place of great antiquity, but I do not find what year it was built. In former times it was fortified, but the walls are now tumbled down, and the caſtle is gone to ruin. In 1650, the town was burnt to the ground, and it has not ſince been able to raiſe its head. Yet the diets of the dutchy of Mecklenburg are held alternately here and at Malchin. In the neighbourhood we ſaw ſeveral gentlemen's houſes, but the town itſelf contains nothing worth remarking.

We breakfaſted at the poſt-houſe, and between eight and nine proceeded on our journey, having a fine view of the country, and the beautiful lake on our right hand. As we advanced we obſerved ſeveral mounts, and very large ſtones, which the officer aſſured me were

the ruins of altars erected by the ancient Venedi. I was glad to find a gentleman of his profeſſion ſo well verſed in antiquity, and this ſingle ſubject gave riſe to a good deal of converſation. Soon after we perceived the gentle Warnow flowing through the meads, and, in in its courſe, fattening a fruitful country. This beautiful river takes its riſe in the center of the dutchy of Mecklenburg, between the principalities of Schwerin and Wenden, not far from the village of Hertzberg, and continuing its courſe towards Sternberg receives the Mildenitz and Nebel; after which it ſpreads into a lake and harbour at Roſtock, and empties itſelf into the Baltic, in the neighbourhood of Warnemunde. By ten we reached the village of Warnow, which derives its name from the above river, and ſtands in a moſt charming country. This was the ſeat of the ancient Varini, who bordered upon the Angli, and they were both compriſed with ſeveral other tribes, in the common appellation of Vandals. We refreſhed ourſelves at this village, and ſoon after we had a ſight of the town of Butzow, which is ſix miles diſtant. The whole road is through a beautiful plain, extremely well watered. As we approached the town, we ſaw on the left a large building, cloſe by a little village, which we were told was Rhunen, formerly a convent for Lutheran ladies; but ſuppreſſed in 1754, by a convention between the

two dukes, and for ever ceded to the duke of Schwerin. Before twelve we reached Butzow, and I took up my quarters at the poſt-houſe.

Butzow is one of the moſt ancient towns in the dutchy of Mecklenburg; they call it in Latin *Bucephalea*, from Alexander's Bucephalus, ſuppoſing it to have been founded by Anthyrius, one of that king's generals, 336 years before the birth of Chriſt. But this I would not have you depend upon; all that we can with any degree of certainty affirm is, that the hiſtory of its origin is loſt in the darkneſs of antiquity. In the year 1232, Henry Burevinus II. and Nicolas III. princes of Mecklenburg, granted this town and the adjacent territory to the biſhops of Schwerin, in whoſe poſſeſſion it continued till the ſecularization of that ſee at the treaty of Weſtphalia. There is ſtill an ancient caſtle here, in which the biſhops of Schwerin formerly reſided; and very lately it was the reſidence of the dutcheſs Sophia Charlotta, dowager of Frederick William, duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin, and ſiſter of the laſt king of Sweden; ſhe died here in 1749. The town was formerly very ſtrong, both by art and nature, being ſurrounded by a moraſs; the fortifications, however, are now gone to ruin. In 1716, it was burnt down to the ground, but has ſince riſen more beautiful out of its aſhes. The ſtreets are wide, and drawn in a ſtrait line. The houſes are high and well-built, making a very

good appearance, yet the town is not well inhabited. Duke Frederick William gave encouragement to the French refugees to ſettle in this place, and accordingly they erected ſome manufactures, which, however, are in a declining condition. In conſequence of a diſpute with the city of Roſtock, the preſent duke has thought proper to found a new univerſity in Butzow, with the conſent and approbation of the late emperor. His highneſs has alſo withdrawn his ſalaries from the univerſity of Roſtock, and appropriated them to this of Butzow. The magiſtrates of Roſtock continue to ſupport the old academy; and the conſequence of this conteſt is, that Roſtock is much hurt, but Butzow not greatly benefited. The duke, indeed, has taken care to employ none as profeſſors, but men of the firſt character, and moſt of them conſpicuous in the republic of letters. Yet as their ſalaries are ſomething ſcanty, and they have but few pupils; their condition is not the moſt affluent, and moſt of them would be glad to ſee matters accommodated between his ſerene highneſs and the magiſtrates of Roſtock.

As ſoon as I arrived at Butzow, I inquired after profeſſor Æpinus, and was overjoyed to hear of his being then in town. After dinner I ſent a card to him, ſignifying that I ſhould be proud of the honour of waiting on him, and begged the favour of him to let me know his leiſure hour: he returned me for anſwer, that

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he would be glad to ſee me at four o'clock. Accordingly I went, and delivered a letter of recommendation to him; but he politely told me I was too well known in Mecklenburg, to need any recommendatory epiſtle. In ſhort, the profeſſor received me with the affection and cordiality of a brother, or very near relation. He had procured a copy of my Vandalia, from Mr. Matthias at Hamburg; and underſtood Engliſh ſufficiently to form a judgment of the work. It would appear like vanity, were I to repeat to you what he ſaid concerning it; and I muſt own that it flattered me greatly to find that my well-meant endeavours had met with the approbation of ſo learned a gentleman. Yet he had made ſome remarks, particularly on the topographical part, where I had been led into a few errors. I told him I ſhould be greatly obliged to him for any of his ſtrictures, and that I was come on purpoſe into Germany, to improve under ſuch a maſter. The profeſſor was not behind-hand in compliments, for he is a courtier as well as philoſopher, being privy-counſellor to the duke, and actually charged with a commiſſion of importance, relating to the preſent diſpute with the magiſtrates of Roſtock. He is a comely man, of a middling ſtature, well limbed, round faced, grey eyed, and ruddy complexion. He expreſſes himſelf with elegance in Latin, as well as in his mother-tongue, and underſtands

the Engliſh, Spaniſh, and Italian languages; he alſo ſpeaks ſome French, but not with fluency.

His family name was originally *Hoch*, which in the German language ſignifies High; and his anceſtors, towards the latter end of the 13th century, were ſettled in a town of the marche of Brandenburg, called Ziegeſer, near the river Oeder; of which John Hoch, from whom he is lineally deſcended, was ſenator or alderman. That gentleman's ſon, named alſo John, was the firſt doctor of divinity at the univerſity of Wittenberg, after the Reformation; and was recommended by Luther to the ſenate of Hamburg, as a proper inſtrument to promote the Proteſtant religion; but meeting with great oppoſition from the abettors of the old doctrine, and being in ſome danger of his life, he was obliged to fly, and thought proper to change his name to Æpinus, from the Greek word ἀιψιτος, which alſo ſignifies *High*. It was much the cuſtom of the learned proteſtants of thoſe days, to Latiniſe or Hellenize their names, as Melancthon, Camerarius, &c. The profeſſor's grand-father was John Æpinus, governor of Stargard, under duke Adolphus Frederick II. of Mecklenburg Strelitz. His father was the Rev. Dr. Francis Albert Æpinus, who having been brought up to the church, and performed his ſtudies at Roſtock, was made doctor of divinity, and raiſed to the chief honours in that univerſity, where he departed this life in

1750.

1750. His writings are very numerous; chiefly on theological ſubjects: Among others relating to Mecklenburg, he compoſed a treatiſe entitled, *De Mecklenburgenſium a Gentiliſmo ad Chriſtianiſmum Converſione*: a copy of which the profeſſor was pleaſed to make me a preſent. He married in 1715, a young lady, named Agnes Dorckſen, of a noble family, by whom he had ſeveral children; and among the reſt, our worthy profeſſor, named Angelus Joannes Daniel, born in 1718; and another ſon named Franciſcus Ulricus Theodoſius, a learned phyſician, well known in the republic of letters, now reſiding at Peterſburg. The profeſſor went through his ſtudies at Roſtock, where he followed his father's foot-ſteps, and raiſed himſelf to the firſt degree of eminence in that univerſity. He is profeſſor of philoſophy now at Butzow, a preferment which he enjoyed before at Roſtock; and being a great hiſtorian and civilian, he has been frequently employed by his ſerene highneſs in public affairs.

When I waited on M. Æpinus, I found him in company with a gentleman named Tetze, who is profeſſor of hiſtory in this univerſity, and was formerly maſter of languages at Gottingen, where his reputation is well eſtabliſhed. He ſpeaks ſurprizing good Engliſh, for one that had not learnt it very young, and has never been in England. Our converſation turned chiefly on the affairs of the univerſity, and the

hiſtory of Mecklenburg, with which profeſſor Æpinus is perfectly acquainted. He lamented that the conveniences for profeſſors and ſtudents at Butzow were but indifferent; that there was no ſuch thing as a public hall for reading lectures, but the profeſſors were obliged to perform that part of their office in their own apartments: that there was not even a proper place for defending public theſes; but they were under neceſſity of making uſe of the church: neither were there many of the burghers that had convenient houſes for boarding the young gentlemen, ſo that, upon the whole, they had great reaſon to regret the removal of the univerſity to Butzow. Theſe inconveniences were ſuch, that he apprehended things would be reſtored to their former ſituation, ſo ſoon as the diſpute between the duke and the ſenate of Roſtock could be accommodated.

During our converſation, coffee, wine and pipes were brought in, and Mrs. Æpinus, who is a very agreeable lady, made her appearance. After compliments were over, profeſſor Æpinus reſumed the ſubject of the univerſity, and gave me the names of the other profeſſors his colleagues, who, as I mentioned to you before, are all men of conſummate learning. The rector is doctor Tychſen, profeſſor of Hebrew and the oriental languages. The other profeſſors are as follow: of divinity and eccleſiaſtical hiſtory is Dr. Doederlein: of law Dr. Mantzel, well known

known in the republic of letters; Dr. Becker; and Dr. Trendenlenburg, brother of the phyſician, of whoſe genteel treatment I wrote to you from Lubeck: of phyſic, Dr. Detharding, and Dr. Schaarſchmidt: of philoſophy, Dr. Æpinus, whoſe publick buſineſs at Roſtock will not permit him at preſent to attend; and Dr. Tetens: of mathematics, Dr. Karſten, a perſon conſpicuous in the learned world: of hiſtory, is M. Totze, the gentleman then in company with M. Æpinus. M. Totze has a very good library, in the ſame houſe. I went up ſtairs with him, and was well pleaſed to ſee ſo large and choice a collection of books. Among the reſt he had a great variety of our beſt Engliſh writers, on different arts and ſciences. This gentleman is writing an introduction to univerſal hiſtory in the German language, and the work is almoſt ready for the preſs. Profeſſor Æpinus's library was at Roſtock, where he chiefly reſides on account of his preſent commiſſion. Yet he has a tolerable collection at Butzow. Hearing that I had found ſuch difficulty to procure a copy of the *Jus Lubicenſe*, he told me he had one at my ſervice, and inſiſted on making me a preſent of it. He has ſeveral other pieces at Roſtock, relating to the hiſtory of Mecklenburg, which he intends I ſhall take with me to England. In our converſation concerning the court of Schwerin, he informed me that princeſs Ulrica, the duke's ſiſter, was learning

ing Engliſh, and had already begun to tranſlate part of my Vandalia. We continued chatting till pretty late, when we had a cold collation, which I may call a *Convivium Philoſophicum*, and was infinitely more agreeable to me, than the ſumptuous repaſts with which I had been ſo often ſurfeited. We broke up in good time, and the two profeſſors inſiſted upon accompanying me to my lodging; profeſſor Æpinus likewiſe was pleaſed to invite me to dine with him the next day.

Early in the morning, M. Æpinus came to my lodging, with a large bundle of printed and MS papers, relating to the affairs of Mecklenburg. One was intitled, *Index lectionum publicarum et privatarum in academia Fridericiana habendarum.* Here I ſaw ſomething that ſounds very droll, viz. that at three in the afternoon, the rector, Dr. Tychſen, (who is a clergyman) will expound the Koran; *hora tertia alcoranum explicabit.* Another, *Initium novæ academiæ Fridericianæ Butzovienſis indicit, atque ad orationem publicam, die 26 Oct. 1760, aperiendis acroaſibus tam publicis quam privatis dicatam, & in templo oppidano habendam, literarum ſtudioſas humaniter invitat, D. Chriſtianus Albertus Doederlein, S.S. Theolog. Prof. P. O.* Another was a large volume in folio, and in the German language, by profeſſor Æpinus, containing a number of documents to prove the juriſdiction of the dukes of Mecklenburg over the univerſity and ſenate of Roſtock.

Roſtock. Another was intitled, *Leges quibus ſtudioſi literarum in academia Butzovienſi tenentur.* To theſe was added, the late emperor's Latin diploma, in MS. confirming the univerſity of Butzow. The profeſſor deſired me to accept of them as a preſent, and that they were only a ſpecimen of what he ſhould give me, when I came to Roſtock. So much generoſity quite confounded me; I could only return him thanks, and promiſed to expreſs my gratitude in a more public manner, when I returned to England. We breakfaſted together, and ſpent a great part of the morning in hiſtorical converſation; and I muſt own that he removed my doubts on ſeveral articles of importance. The time ſtole inſenſibly away till noon, their uſual hour of dining, when I attended him to his houſe.

I found he had got ſome other company, but not very numerous. There were two profeſſors of the univerſity, Mr. Totze and M. Trendenlenburg, to whom I was politely introduced by M. Æpinus; and I took the opportunity of mentioning the civilities I had received from his brother at Lubeck. He is much younger than the phyſician, and reſembles him greatly in the face, which is telling you that he is a handſome man. He is married to a young gentlewoman from the electorate of Hanover, by whom he has a houſe full of children; for you cannot imagine how prolific the women

are

are in this country. Another of the *Dramatis Perſonæ*, was a Calviniſt miniſter, whom they called paſtor Finneman, a very agreeable, and I may ſay, accompliſhed gentleman. The Calviniſts, in this town, are but a very ſmall congregation; their eſtabliſhment was chiefly owing to the French refugees, who came hither to erect manufactures. Their meeting-houſe was ſo old, that they found it neceſſary to pull it down; ſo that poor paſtor Finneman was obliged to undertake a journey to Holland, in order to raiſe contributions for building another. He ſucceeded pretty well; the conſequence of which has been the erecting of a handſome edifice: but it is not yet roofed in, neither has he money ſufficient to finiſh the inſide, ſo that he talks of a ſecond expedition to Holland; nay, he knows not but he may go over to England, having read in the public papers of the vaſt ſums of money collected in that country, for charitable and religious uſes. He is very well qualified for an office and fatigue of this kind, being a robuſt man, of a very agreeable perſon, extremely chearful, and endowed with good ſenſe and learning. Between this gentleman and profeſſor Æpinus, there is an intimate friendſhip; though the latter is a zealous Lutheran, and the former a Calviniſtical miniſter. But difference in religion ſeldom breaks the union of brotherly love and chriſtian charity in Germany. I was

pleaſed

pleaſed now to find myſelf in the company of philoſophers, hoping to retrieve the time I had loſt in feaſting at Hamburg and Lubeck. Our entertainment was very good, but nothing ſumptuous and extravagant. In drinking healths I obſerved ſomething new, that they took one large glaſs, and ſipped to the health of each perſon, till they went round the whole company; and then there were no more healths drank. They performed the ſame ceremony of ſaluting one another after dinner, as at Lubeck; and I find it is the cuſtom all over Mecklenburg. The afternoon converſation was chiefly on matters relating to the academy. Upon my expreſſing a deſire to ſee the town, and the public ſchool called the Pædagogium, they made me put it off till the next day, when the two profeſſors, Æpinus and Totze, promiſed to be my guides. At nine o'clock we had a cold ſupper, and parted at eleven, after profeſſor Trendenlenburg had engaged the whole company to dine with him the day following.

Early the next morning profeſſor Trendenlenburg knocked at my chamber-door, before I was up, and I found it was to remind me of my engagement. Mr. Totze called upon me ſoon after, and was followed by profeſſor Æpinus, who inſiſted on my breakfaſting at his houſe, and told me that they were ready afterwards to ſhew me the town. The firſt place they conducted me to was the Pædogogium, or pub-

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lic grammar-ſchool for qualifying youth for the univerſity. The building where this ſchool is kept, is very ancient, being the old ducal palace, near one of the gates of the city. Adjoining to it is a tower, on which I ſaw the following inſcription:

MCCCCXXVIII. Reverendus Pat. Dnus. Nicolaus, epiſc. Suerin. hanc turrem conſtruxit.

The apartments for the maſters and the young gentlemen are very commodious, and have a pleaſant proſpect of the country. It was in this building, as I mentioned to you before, that the dutcheſs dowager of Mecklenburg, ſiſter of the late king of Sweden, ended her days. From thence we adjourned to the church, a good Gothic ſtructure, very lightſome, but containing nothing remarkable. Dr. Trendenlenburg's houſe was near the church, ſo that we had an eaſy tranſition to dinner. We had a pretty large company, and, among the reſt, Dr. Karſten, profeſſor of mathematics. He is a gentleman of low ſtature, very thin and meagre, of grave deportment, in ſome meaſure, the effect of his ſickly conſtitution. Our entertainment was very good, but no exceſs of any kind. The converſation turned chiefly on the arts and ſciences in England; and the gentlemen were pleaſed to ſay a great many fine things in commendation of Engliſh literature.

After

After-dinner we adjourned to Mr. Karſten's, in order to ſee his obſervatory. I found it well conſtructed, and furniſhed with glaſſes, and other mathematical inſtruments. He has alſo a good library, eſpecially of books in his own profeſſion. The doctor has publiſhed ſeveral mathematical performances himſelf, among the reſt a very thick volume in 8vo, intitled, *Matheſis theoretica elementaris atque ſublimior, in uſum academicarum prælectionum, auctore Wenceſl. Jo. Guſt. Karſten. Phil. Doct. in acad. Roſt.* 1760. He was pleaſed to make me a preſent of this, and ſome other pieces of his own compoſing. This gentleman is reckoned one of the completeſt mathematicians in all Germany.

After we had indulged our curioſity at Dr. Karſten's, profeſſor Æpinus propoſed taking a walk out of town, to ſhew me the environs. The town being not above two miles in compaſs, we ſoon went round it. I obſerved that the country was very rich and pleaſant, but without avenues or walks planted with trees, as in the neighbourhood of Lubeck and Hamburg. Night coming on we returned to profeſſor Trendenlenburg, where we ſupped and ſpent the evening. As I have now ſeen all that is curious in Butzow, profeſſor Æpinus propoſes going to Roſtock, in order to be my Cicerone in that capital city of Mecklenburg. There, he tells me, I ſhall find many things worthy of my notice, and ſhall be ſupplied with

with any books or papers in his poſſeſſion, relating to the hiſtory of this country.. But the principal place he wants me to ſee is the village of Dobberan, where ſtands the oldeſt church in this province, which had been long the burying-place of the ducal family. I thanked the profeſſor for his civility, and cloſed with ſo kind an offer. His lady goes with him, and he will make ſome ſtay at Roſtock. This morning I have taken my leave of all the learned profeſſors, to whom I cannot expreſs ſufficient acknowledgements for the great honour they have done me. The ſeaſon is now far advanced, ſo that to ſtay here only to accept of entertainments, though with philoſophical men, would not be altogether ſo prudent. I intend to leave this place to day about twelve o'clock, at noon, and expect to be in Roſtock by duſk. I ſhall go in the poſt-waggon, and profeſſor Æpinus follows me in a day or two, being obliged to wait for ſome papers from Schwerin. I propoſe to myſelf a good deal of pleaſure in Roſtock, with ſo agreeable a companion. I am now going to breakfaſt with him, ſo that I have but juſt time to aſſure you, that I ſhall ever continue to be

Dear Sir, yours, &c.

LETTER VI.

Roſtock, September 20, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

IT was ſome little concern to me, to leave Butzow without my good friend the profeſſor; yet I pleaſed myſelf with the hopes of ſoon enjoying his company. Neither have I been diſappointed, for he joined me according to promiſe; and his kindneſs to me ever ſince has ſurpaſſed my expectation.

I left Butzow the 15th inſtant, at one o'clock, after taking a running dinner with the profeſſor. All my company was a Swediſh officer, going to Stralſund. The diſtance from Butzow to Roſtock is about ſixteen miles. The road is good all the way, and the whole country a garden. By three o'clock we came to a little village called Grætze, where the poſtillion ſtopped to refreſh his horſes. The country, as we advanced, rather improved to our view, and eſpecially on the right, where we ſaw

riſe in delightful eminences, with the river Warnow gliding through a fruitful valley. On the left lay the pleaſant village of Bockholtz. By ſix o'clock we reached the city of Roſtock, where I ſet up at the beſt inn in the town, kept by the widow Schonfeldt, which had been recommended to me by profeſſor Æpinus.

Here I had not been above half an hour, when an adventure happened, which will give you ſome idea of the good-nature of the people of Mecklenburg. I was ſhewn into a room, contiguous to another filled with company. They were over their bottle, and I could hear them laugh and talk aloud like perſons that were jovial and merry. Preſently one of the gentlemen came into my room, to ſpeak to the landlady, who, ſeeing me alone, had vouchſafed to come and chat with me. Hearing from Mrs. Schonfeldt, that I was a foreigner, juſt arrived from England, he addreſſed himſelf to me in a moſt polite manner, welcoming me to Roſtock. I was no leſs ſtruck with the comelineſs of his perſon, than with his engaging manner. We entered into converſation, and he aſked me my name. He ſeemed to be a good deal ſurprized upon hearing it, and after ſome pauſe, told me he had been informed by baron Dewitz of New Strelitz, that one of my name had written the hiſtory of Mecklenburg, in the Engliſh language. Finding that I was the very perſon, he fell into a kind

a kind of rapture; then throwing his arms about my neck, he almoſt ſtifled me with his embraces. "And is it you," ſaid he, "my dear ſir, that have taken ſuch immenſe pains to write the hiſtory of our country; you that have expoſed yourſelf to the danger of the ſeas, to do us the honour of a viſit? I have heard baron Dewitz mention your name very often; but neither he nor I ever expected to ſee you in this part of the world." I could not help bluſhing at his compliments; but, before I could make him a reply, he flew into the other room, and apprized the company of the whole affair; upon which they all came and congratulated me upon my arrival in Roſtock. I was then entreated to make one of their party; and upon my thanking them for the honour, an elegant ſupper was ordered, and we ſpent the evening in a moſt agreeable manner. The name of the gentleman who firſt ſpoke to me is Schroder; he is burgomaſter of New Brandenburg, and employed here as deputy of that city, at the committee of the ſtates: he is about forty, lively and agreeable in his converſation, ſpeaks very good French, and ſeems to be well verſed in public buſineſs. He aſked me whether I had acquainted baron Dewitz with the news of my landing in Germany; I told him I had not, but that I intended to ſurpriſe him when I got to Strelitz. The reſt of the converſation turned upon the affairs of England, and lord

Chatham, whom they hold in great veneration. The queen's pregnancy was alſo talked of; and I found that public prayers are put up in all the churches for her majeſty's ſafe delivery. At length it grew late, and the company withdrew, leaving me to my meditations on the ſingularity of the adventure.

The next morning a gentleman called upon me, to give me notice that he had received a letter from profeſſor Æpinus, with directions to ſhew me the town. It ſeems the profeſſor was willing that I ſhould not be idle, and therefore had ſupplied me with a Cicerone, who was a very ſenſible man, and ſtiled himſelf ſecretary to the commiſſion of Roſtock. This was the commiſſion relative to the diſpute between the duke and the magiſtrates of that city. Soon after burgomaſter Schroder ſent his ſervant to let me know he ſhould be glad I would dine with him, and permit him to accompany me in viewing the city. So much politeneſs was very flattering, and I readily cloſed with his kind offer.

Roſtock is the largeſt and beſt city in the dutchy of Mecklenburg. The founder of it was Gòdeſcalcus, king of the Venedi and Obòtrites, murdered in 1066. It was afterwards enlarged and fortified by Pribiſlaus II. in 1160, out of the ruins of the ancient town of Kiſſin, which ſtood in this neighbourhood. Some pretend it takes its name from *Rotſtock*, or a red pillar,

pillar, where the fiſhermen uſed formerly to aſſemble; others, from the plenty of roſes in this neighbourhood, Roſtock, that is *roſarum urbs*; others will have the name to be of Venedic original, and to ſignify either a marſhy land, or a diviſion of water; others, in fine, derive it from the Venedic word *Roſtavit*, which implies reſurrection, becauſe it aroſe out of the ruins of the abovementioned city of Kiſſin. It is ſituate within a league of the Baltic, in a very wholeſome air, on the river Warnow, which is navigable to the very walls; but large ſhips come no farther than Warnemunde, a little town at the mouth of the river. Roſtock is about three miles in circumference, and pretty well fortified, having a ſtrong wall with a very deep ditch on the ſouth ſide; and on the north, a wall with the river Warnow. But the misfortune is, they have no cannon, the Pruſſians having carried off all their artillery in the laſt war. Yet there is a ſtrong garriſon of the duke's troops, commanded by colonel Gluer, a very agreeable gentleman, whoſe ſon is alſo an officer in the duke of Strelitz's ſervice.

Roſtock is divided into the old and new town, which are ſeparated from each other by a branch of the Warnow; the former is low, and but indifferently built; the latter ſtands upon higher ground, and is ornamented with handſome houſes. The ſtreets are large and regular, eſpecially in the New

Town. There are ſix bridges in Roſtock, with four large, and fourteen leſſer gates, the latter looking towards the river. It has three ſpacious market-places, with one hundred and forty ſtreets. The *Middle Market* is a fine ſquare ſurrounded with lofty buildings The town-houſe is a modern ſtructure of beautiful architecture, and remarkable for ſeven ſpires. Here their archives are kept, and here the ſeveral courts of juſtice are held. Some of the apartments are handſome, and kept very neat. The dukes have a palace in this city, where they have ſometimes reſided; but it is very ancient, and in ſuch bad order, that it no longer deſerves to be honoured with their preſence. Adjoining to it is a play-houſe, in which theatrical pieces were formerly repreſented; but at preſent all ſuch amuſements are baniſhed out of Mecklenburg.

This city has four principal churches: St. Mary's, St. James's, St. Peter's, and St. Nicholas's; and five leſſer ones, thoſe of the Holy Ghoſt, St. Catharine, St. John, St. Michael, and the Holy Croſs. They are all of Gothic ſtructure, and not at all remarkable either for beauty or neatneſs. I muſt except St. Mary's, which is a fine Gothic pile in the form of a croſs, and ſituate in the heart of the city. The aſtronomical clock is ſomewhat like that of St. Mary's at Lubeck, but at preſent out of order. The marble altar is ſumptuous and elegant; there

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are alſo ſome handſome monuments, and a number of curious inſcriptions. Among the reſt I ſaw a Latin inſcription at the church-door pointing out the year in which it was built. I know not whether you will call it an ænigma, or a connundrum; but I believe you will look upon it as a ſtrong proof of monkiſh barbarouſneſs, or of the fantaſtical taſte of the times.

Octo ſerpentes caudam de more trahentes,
Qui triplo fune jungunt tria babbata lunæ
Primo dando crucem.

The triple cord ſignifies	M	or	1000
The three horſe-ſhoes	CCC	or	300
The firſt letter in the word *Crucem*, with a croſs, makes	XC	or	90
So the year of our Lord muſt have been	MCCCXC	or	1390

In this church of St. Mary's are preſerved the entrails of the celebrated Grotius, who died at Roſtock in 1645. I thought it very ſingular that in a city ſo famous for the cultivation of learning, no monument had been raiſed, nor even an inſcription written in honour of one of the greateſt ornaments of literature. I told M. Schroder that this was a diſgrace to the magiſtrates and to the univerſity; the burgomaſter ſmiled, and anſwered me that if I would

write one, he believed he had intereſt to get it engraved and ſet up. I did not think him in earneſt; however, in honour of a writer whom I ſo greatly admire, I gave him the following lines:

Hic ſitus eſt toto fama notiſſimus orbe,
Grotius, ingenio clarus & eloquio:
Exuviæ illuſtres parva conduntur in urna,
Ingenii lumen condere nil poterit.

In the church of St. Nicholas, I ſaw a beautiful confeſſional, which is ſaid to have coſt three thouſand dollars. The pulpit in that ſame church is decorated with a variety of carving and gilding. In St. Peter's church is a remarkable groteſque picture of the laſt judgment, in which the devils are repreſented in the moſt hideous forms, ſpitting fire out of their mouths, and driving the damned ſouls with pitchforks into the flames of hell. In order to render the ſcene ſtill more dreadful, ſome ſtupid enthuſiaſt has clapped horns on the heads of thoſe enemies of mankind, and bored holes in their eyes, which he has filled up with glaſs beads, to make them look more ghaſtly. In ſhort, the whole repreſentation is frightful and abominable beyond all deſcription. M. Schroder, who was in company, could not help obſerving that it was a moſt ſcandalous piece, and ought to be removed out

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of the church, as a public nuiſance. The church of the Holy Croſs took its name from a fragment of Chriſt's croſs, which Margaret queen of Denmark is ſaid to have brought hither from Rome, upon her return in the year 1270. She built this church, in conſequence of a vow at ſea, in a violent ſtorm; and ſhe founded a nunnery on the ſame ſpot, which is now a place of retirement for ladies of good families, who have a genteel ſubſiſtence, and live together in a kind of community, but without any vows or confinement.

Roſtock has purchaſed ſuch privileges of its dukes, that it has been often looked upon as a free imperial city. This is not, however, the caſe; for it ſtill acknowledges ſubjection to their ſerene highneſſes, and pays them the yearly tribute of fifty-five rix-dollars, beſides ſix hundred florins, in conſideration of the grant of an exciſe. It has the right of coining money, and the privilege of being governed by the *Jus Lubicenſe*, or according to the laws of Lubeck. In the thirteenth century it entered into the Hanſeatic alliance, but was ſtill governed by its own lords, who were a branch of the houſe of Mecklenburg. This branch became extinct in 1374, upon the death of Nicholas, ſurnamed Puer, who had put himſelf and his territories under the protection of Eric, king of Denmark. Towards the middle of the fourteenth century, it ſhook off the Daniſh yoke, which produced an obſtinate

obſtinate war; but Henry the Lion, prince of Mecklenburg, joining with the Danes, the town was beſieged, and obliged to ſubmit. Henry was appointed governor; and both the town and lordſhip of Roſtock were afterwards tranſferred to him in full ſovereignty, by Chriſtopher king of Denmark. The citizens had frequent diſputes with the dukes, concerning their privileges, which diſputes were ſometimes productive of hoſtilities on each ſide, and compoſed at length by ſeveral treaties. They are now again at variance; but without hoſtilities, the duke having a ſtrong garriſon in the town, to awe the inhabitants. The chief bone of contention ſeems to be, the ſettling of the proportion for paying the contributions exacted on this country in the late war, by the king of Pruſſia. The duke has nominated a commiſſion for inquiring into the circumſtances of the citizens, and profeſſor Æpinus is one of the commiſſaries. The magiſtrates have appealed from the duke to the Aulic council, which is very ready to encourage ſuch diſputes between the German princes and their ſubjects, as by ſuch means the authority of thoſe princes is weakened, and the power and influence of the imperial court are conſiderably augmented. The duke, in reſentment to the magiſtrates, has erected the univerſity of Butzow, which, as I mentioned to you before, does infinite prejudice to Roſtock.

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The inhabitants of this city, and of the whole dutchy of Mecklenburg, are almoſt all Lutherans, and very zealous in their perſuaſion. The magiſtrates conſiſt of three burgomaſters, one ſyndic, ſeventeen ſenators or aldermen, one prothonotary, and a ſecretary: they are poſſeſſed of civil and criminal juriſdiction. There is a conſiſtory, or ſpiritual court held at Roſtock, compoſed of the twelve miniſters of the town, in conjunction with the ſuperintendant. The committee of the ſtates likewiſe holds its aſſembly in this city; it conſiſts of nine perſons, two provincial counſellors, three deputies of the nobility, and four deputies of the towns of Roſtock, Parchim, Guſtrow, and New Brandenburg. This aſſembly is conſidered as a college or repreſentative of the whole body of the nobility and commons, and attends to the preſervation of their rights and privileges.

The univerſity of Roſtock has been reckoned one of the beſt in Germany, having produced many able profeſſors in moſt branches of learning, as Crantzius, Chytræus, Bocerus, Poſſelius, Caſſelius, &c. Many of the firſt princes of the empire have thought it an honour to be rectors of this great academy, among whom they reckon two of the houſe of Mecklenburg, two of the houſe of Brunſwick, a duke of Courland, and a brother of Chriſtian IV. king of Denmark. It was founded by the dukes of Mecklenburg, and the magiſtrates of the town in 1419; and endowed by pope Martin V. with

with ſeveral privileges: theſe were afterwards confirmed by the emperor Ferdinand I. who favoured it with a new charter. Since that time this ſeat of learning has greatly flouriſhed, even amidſt the inteſtine broils and diſturbances of the empire. In 1563, the dukes and the magiſtrates entered into an agreement to maintain twenty-four profeſſors, fifteen appointed by the prince, and nine by the town; the dukes were to contribute towards their ſalaries, three thouſand florins, and the town five hundred. The univerſity is governed by a ſenate, conſiſting of nine ducal profeſſors, and nine nominated by the magiſtrates; but ſince the foundation of the academy of Butzow, things are fallen into confuſion; the duke has withdrawn his ſalaries from this city, and the magiſtrates continue to ſupport their own profeſſors. This contention has been of infinite prejudice to the cauſe of learning, and ſeems to threaten the ruin of this once flouriſhing univerſity. But profeſſor Æpinus has expectations that the affair will be accommodated, and the muſes, the *Warniades Muſæ*, once more reſtored to the banks of the Warnow.

The ſituation of Roſtock on a navigable river, and ſo near the Baltic, procures it a flouriſhing trade; the chief articles of which are the exportation of corn, and the importation of brandy and wine. About four miles from Roſtock, is the harbour of Warnemunde, ſo called from being

being at the mouth of the river Warnow. It is a ſmall but pleaſant place, where the Swedes had formerly a fort, which obliged every veſſel paſſing that way to pay a toll of two rix-dollars and a half. The dukes of Mecklenburg complained of this hardſhip, alledging that the toll-right granted to Sweden by the treaty of Weſtphalia, was to be underſtood only of the harbours belonging to thoſe towns, which were ceded to that crown. The Swedes, however, about the year 1740, mortgaged the toll to the duke of Mecklenburg; but at preſent it does not produce much more than ſix thouſand dollars a year, whereas in more flouriſhing times, it uſed to yield an annual revenue of eight thouſand.

Roſtock was formerly celebrated for good beer; but this branch of trade is much upon the decline. Beſides Rheniſh wines, they have plenty of French white wine, which when kept to a proper age, is a pleaſant liquor. They have alſo a red French wine; but it is ſo tart, that they are obliged to ſweeten it with ſugar. In this neighbourhood they have lately eſtabliſhed a glaſs manufactory, which beſides home conſumption, is likewiſe an article of export. The gentlemen here have no great notion of commerce; for this very manufactory, though ſo beneficial to the country, is condemned by M. Schroder, as occaſioning too great a conſumption of wood. There

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are ſeveral pleaſant walks in the environs, eſpecially on the banks of the Warnow. The quay before the town is very beautiful, and crowded with ſhipping, but none of large burthen. It is likewiſe agreeable walking on the ramparts, from whence you have a fine view of the country. The villas or gardens, though not ſo numerous as thoſe in the neighbourhood of Hamburg and Lubeck, ſtill are very pretty, and the environs, upon the whole, are deſerving of a traveller's curioſity. They have ſome good inns in the town; that where I lodge, Mrs. Schonfeldt's, is clean and neat, and has a genteel ordinary, frequented by the beſt company. I have made acquaintance here with a young officer, in the Hanoverian ſervice, captain Kettemburg, of a noble family in this country. He is a near relation of the celebrated madam de Grabow, who was governante to her majeſty of Great Britain, and the princeſs her ſiſter, but now reſides intirely at Guſtrow. The captain lives alſo in that city, and is here upon a viſit. He is of a very genteel ſize and make, a florid, but handſome face, and fair complexion; he ſeems to have very good parts, has much improved them by reading, ſpeaks good French, but with too much quickneſs; and upon the whole is an accompliſhed gentleman. He propoſes returning to-morrow to Guſtrow, and has made me promiſe

promiſe to pay him a viſit in my way to Strelitz.

I waited here but one day for profeſſor Æpinus; he followed me according to promiſe, and gave me notice of his arrival by an invitation to dine with him. I have ever ſince been conſtantly in his company. He is intimately acquainted with burgomaſter Schroder, ſo that the latter often dines with us, and is of moſt of our parties. The day after his arrival we went to ſee the public libraries. The firſt is that of St. Mary's, which belongs to the clergy, and is very well filled, but chiefly with books of divinity. Thence we proceeded to the library of St. John's, which they call the *Bibliotheque de la nobleſſe*, and belongs to the ſtates of the province. The librarian is a very polite gentleman, M. Koch, a Saxon by birth, who is alſo ſtiled *Lands Conſulent*, or ſecretary to the ſtates. This is a very large collection, conſiſting chiefly of books of law and hiſtory; a great number of the latter are concerning the affairs of Sweden, being a preſent from an officer of that nation. M. Koch attended us from thence to the library of the town-houſe, where the archives are preſerved, and of which he is alſo librarian. Here is a very large collection of printed books and MSS relating to the hiſtory of Mecklenburg, and particularly to the diſputes between the dukes and the nobility of the province. He

ſhewed us the original convention of the ſtates in 1525, and the archives and records, which are kept in very good order. There we ſtaid till it was duſk, when we went to ſpend the evening by invitation with Dr. Eſchenbach, the chief phyſician of Roſtock, and brother-in-law of profeſſor Æpinus. The company was very numerous, moſt of them relations, and the principal people of the town, among whom were colonel Gluer, the commandant, and ſenator Hop. I ſhall not enter into the particulars of our entertainment; ſuffice it to tell you, that it was as ſumptuous as that of Dr. Trendenlenburg, at Lubeck; and attended with much the ſame ceremonies. The phyſicians in this country, ſeem to have entered into a combination to deſtroy rather than preſerve the health of their friends and acquaintance; for there is more exceſs and extravagance at their entertainments, than even at thoſe of the nobility; and the conſequence of ſuch exceſs cannot be any other than the propagation of all ſorts of diſeaſes. The doctor, however, is a good-natured gentleman, and well known in the republic of letters. He has made me a preſent of ſome of his lucubrations; among the reſt, *Obſervata quædam anatomico-chirugico-medica rariora, Roſtochii*, 1753, one volume in quarto. *Nova pathologiæ delineatio, Roſtochii* 1755, one volume in octavo. And a treatiſe on midwifery, in the German tongue, printed at Roſtock in 1765.

He

He does not think I ſhall read a treatiſe on midwifery, but is deſirous I ſhould ſhew it to ſome of my medical friends, at my return to England.

Early the next morning the profeſſor called upon me to go with him to the univerſity-library at St. James's, which he had reſerved by way of *bonne bouche*, being the principal library of the town. It is indeed a very large collection, and kept in excellent order. Here we were entertained with ſeveral curioſities; among the reſt, with a book of pſalms in the Malabar language, and Thomas a Kempis in the ſame, on palm leaves. They ſhewed us likewiſe a beautiful copy of the famous *Herbarium Eichſtatenſe*, finely bound and gilt; it was preſented to the univerſity by Philip II. duke of Pomerania, who wrote the following lines within-ſide: *Philippus, dux Pomeranorum, herbarium hunc in ſui memoriam contulit academiæ Roſtochianæ, menſe Septemb. anno* 1615. The book is carefully preſerved in a wooden caſe. Another curioſity is a German treatiſe on cheſs, written by Auguſtus, duke of Brunſwick, under the name of Guſtavus Selenus, and printed at Leipſick in 1616; it was preſented to the univerſity of Roſtock by that prince, who ſignified his intention by the following lines: *Tractatum hunc de ludo latronum & numerorum, benevolentiæ & memoriæ ergo, author univerſitati Roſtochianæ dono mittit*

3. *Auguſti* 1617. *mppria.* They have alſo another preſent of a book of religious poems by his ſon duke Ferdinand Albert, printed at Bevern in 1677, with theſe lines in his own hand-writing, but in the German tongue: *We, Ferdinand Albert, duke of Brunſwick and Lunenburg, make a preſent of this compoſition to the celebrated univerſity of Roſtock, for the uſe of its library; in the forty-third year of our age. Given at our reſidence of Bevern, the 9th of May,* 1679. The lateſt princely performance is a book of religious poems, written by Guſtavus Adolphus, duke of Mecklenburg Guſtrow, and preſented to the univerſity by his widow, the dutcheſs Magdalena Sibylla, in 1710. After we had ſeen every thing moſt worthy of notice, we adjourned to profeſſor Æpinus's M. Schroder was of the company; the converſation after dinner turned upon literature, and every thing was conducted with politeneſs and eaſe. We were invited to ſpend the afternoon at M. Hop's, a gentleman who lives in the great market-place, and is brother to the burgomaſter of that name. His intention was to ſhew us his cabinet of curioſities, reckoned one of the beſt in the dutchy of Mecklenburg. We accepted the invitation, and were received with the utmoſt politeneſs. This collection ſeems to have employed M. Hop's whole life; almoſt every room in his houſe is full of ſome kind of rari-

ties, as prints, ſtones, gems, minerals, &c. which would take a volume to deſcribe. Yet after all his labour and pains, he would be willing to diſpoſe of this treaſure; and profeſſor Æpinus deſired me to hint this circumſtance to the duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin, if ever an opportunity ſhould offer. This brought to my mind the thought of Rouſſeau, who compares a man tired of his purſuits, to a child gathering ſhells on the ſea-ſhore. He firſt begins to fill his pockets without choice; tempted by the ſight of others more beautiful, he throws the former away, then goes on taking and rejecting, till fatigued and confounded, he concludes with flinging them all away, and returns home with empty pockets. We took leave of M. Hop by duſk, and ſpent a very agreeable evening at M. Æpinus's.

The next day the profeſſor engaged me to go with him to M. Nieman's, the town-clerk, who had invited us to ſee his collection of medals, which is reckoned the beſt of any in Roſtock, and is ſaid to have coſt him upwards of four thouſand crowns. It conſiſts chiefly of the coins of Mecklenburg, from the earlieſt times. We employed the whole morning in viewing it, and thought our time moſt agreeably ſpent. On a medal ſtruck by John Albert, duke of Mecklenburg, at the time of the Thirty Years war, we ſaw a legend, which puzzles even M. Nieman himſelf: it is this,

Fortune in fortune fort une. The company gave different explications, but they all ſeemed to me unſatisfactory. We went home to dinner (I call the profeſſor's houſe my home) where we were again joined by burgomaſter Schroder, and the converſation turned a good deal on the article of medals. I find that the profeſſor is well ſkilled in the coins of Mecklenburg, and has made a pretty collection. He has written a treatiſe on coins, with which he intends to favour the public. He is likewiſe poſſeſſed of a great number of inſignia or ſeals, and coats of arms, and has printed a treatiſe on that ſubject with the following title: *De variis terrarum Mecklenburgicarum, quibus ſigilla ducalia explicantur, ſatis, oratio ſolennis in die natali ſer. duc. Car. Leopol. 6. kal. Dec.* 1748. *ex cathedra acad. dicta.* From medals, the diſcourſe inſenſibly changed to other topics, and we fell at length upon the controverſy between the duke and the city of Roſtock. The profeſſor, I find, is a ſtrenuous ſtickler for the cauſe of his prince, apprehending him to have juſtice on his ſide. In ſhort, he looks upon the Roſtockers as pertinacious republicans, who refuſe to acknowledge the legal prerogative of their ſovereign. How zealous he is on the ſide of prerogative, you may judge from his having compoſed a folio volume in its defence, againſt the claims and pretenſions of the magiſtrates of this city. He has been ſo

kind

kind as to make me a preſent of this and ſeveral other performances, which he judges neceſſary or uſeful to my hiſtory. Among other curious pieces in his poſſeſſion, I was vaſtly pleaſed with the ſight of a very ſcarce Latin poem, relating to the affairs of Mecklenburg, with the following title:

C. Eraſmi Michaelii Læti Margareticorum, hoc eſt de conflictu Gothico, in quo Margaritæ Danorum reginæ auſpiciis, Albertus Megapolenſis, Sueciæ rex, captus regnoque exutus eſt, libri decem: ad ſereniſſimam atque illuſtriſſimam Angliæ, Franciæ & Hiberniæ, virginem reginam. Francofurti 1573, in quarto.

Thus we ſpent the hours till ſupper, in examining into different authors, and converſing on ſubjects of uſeful literature. Even at dinner the profeſſor would loſe no time, but had a number of volumes at hand, which he conſulted in the midſt of his repaſt. His manner of entertaining is genteel, and not extravagant; his table is well ſerved, and furniſhed with good wines; yet there is no encouragement to exceſs; and he ſays of himſelf, what was ſaid of Plato, That they who ſup with Æpinus never complain the next morning. He is a great admirer of Plutarch's Sympoſiacs, and therefore loves chearful converſation at meals, but eſpecially on ſuch ſubjects as convey inſtruc-

nine we paſſed through a pretty hamlet called Parchentin, about half way; and by ten arrived at Dobberan. The village lies low, amidſt gentle eminences, except towards the ſea-ſide. It conſiſts chiefly of a pleaſant green, ſurrounded with decent cottages. On the left ſide of the green ſtands a public-houſe, kept by a Dutchman, who has been long ſettled in this country. The profeſſor ordered the coach to drive to this houſe, which we found very neat; as ſoon as we had drunk coffee, the ſexton, who is a ſchoolmaſter and antiquarian, was ſent for to ſhew us the church. The ſexton came, and we followed our guide.

Dobberan is a village of the dutchy of Mecklenburg, ſituated two miles from the Baltic; and nine from Roſtock. During the times of Pagan ſuperſtition, the Venedi worſhipped their idols here in a grove; but Pribiſlaus II. the laſt king of the Venedi, having embraced the chriſtian religion, ſuppreſſed the idolatrous rites, and erected a chapel on the ſame ſpot, in the year 1168. Here alſo he founded a Ciſtercian monaſtery, in 1170; and endowed it with a handſome revenue. The year of this foundation is expreſſed by the following inſcription in monkiſh verſes:

Annus millenus centenus ſeptuagenus
Et primus colitur, cum Dobberan ſtruitur.

The

The monaſtery and chapel were deſtroyed after that prince's deceaſe, by the idolaters; but his ſon Henry Burevinus I. rebuilt the monaſtery in 1186, with greater magnificence. Several of his ſucceſſors made farther grants of privileges and lands to this houſe. The preſent church was finiſhed in the reign of Henry Burevinus III. and conſecrated by Brunward, biſhop of Schwerin, in the year 1232. In proceſs of time the monaſtery becoming immenſely opulent, the church was decorated beyond any other in Mecklenburg, with ſtatues, paintings, and ſepulchral inſcriptions. It was long the burying-place of the princes of the houſe of Mecklenburg; many of whoſe monuments are ſtill preſerved. At the Reformation the abbey was diſſolved, and the monaſtery changed into a hunting-ſeat for their ſerene highneſſes, who applied a part of the produce of its lands towards paying the ſalaries of the profeſſors of the univerſity of Roſtock.

The church is a venerable Gothic pile, ninety-ſix feet in height, two hundred and twenty in length, and one hundred in breadth. It is airy and lightſome ſo as to be reckoned a beautiful piece of antient architecture; but contains very few modern embelliſhments. The high altar is juſt as it ſtood in the popiſh times, crowded with groteſque figures in wood. The antiquities preſerved in this place are numerous;

merous; and as they moſtly relate to the ſerene family, I propoſe giving you ſome account of them. I ſhall divide them into paintings, ſtatues, epitaphs, inſcriptions, and relicks.

PAINTINGS.

They conſiſt chiefly of portraits at full length, and ſome from the life, repreſenting the princes of the ſerene family, from the year 1159. Many of them having been greatly injured by time, were repaired by order of the laſt duke of Mecklenburg. The habits of ſome of the moſt ancient princes are extremely curious. Theſe paintings are ranged in the following order:

1. Nicolotus rex Obotritorum, 1159.
2. Pribiſlaus, filius regis Nicoloti, obiit 1179.
3. John duke of Stargard, died in 1370.
4. Prince Albert died in 1379. On the right hand are theſe words:

Miſeremini mei, miſeremini mei,
Vos ſaltem O amici mei.

5. Henry the Corpulent, died in 1477. His conſort Dorothea, of the houſe of Brandenburg.
6. Albert, king of Sweden, and duke of Mecklenburg, died in 1394, and lies interred at Gadebuſch.
7. Albert's firſt wife Richardis. At her feet lies her dog named Uryfris.

8. Al-

8. Albert's ſon; died in 1473.

9. Sophia, duke Ulrick's daughter. This princeſs was married the 20th of July, 1572, to Frederick king of Denmark.

10. Ulric. In this prince's reign, this church was repaired in the year 1578; the duke died in 1605.

11. Charles died unmarried in 1613.

12. Anna, of Pomerania, conſort of duke Ulric.

13. Albert the Fair died January 10, 1547: he was buried under the altar, where theſe words are written:

E multis domibus hæc una ſola domus.

14. Anne, his conſort departed this life the 19th of January, 1567; and was interred in the cathedral of Schwerin.

15. John Albert the Firſt, died in 1576.

16. Anna Sophia, his conſort, marchioneſs of Brandenburg.

17. John, ſon of Henry the Corpulent, died of the plague at Culmbach in Franconia.

18. John, brother of duke Henry the Corpulent.

19. Magnus departed this life in 1503.

20. Balthaſar, ſon of duke Magnus.

21. Eric, another ſon of the ſame.

22. Margaret, queen of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden; ſhe choſe to be interred here in a wooden coffin.

24. Duke

24. Duke Adolph Frederic died in 1658.

25. His conſort Anna Maria, of Eaſt-Friſeland, departed this life the 5th of February, 1634; and lies buried here, aged thirty-two years, ſeven months, and eleven days.

25. Chriſtian Lewis.

Beſides the above portraits, there are two groteſque paintings in this church, which it is impoſſible to view without laughing. The firſt is the monk and the devil. The monk is ſhut up in the church with a woman, whom he endeavours to conceal under his cloak. The devil ſees him, and cries out in Latin: *Quid facis hic frater? quid agis? vade mecum.* What doſt thou here, brother? what art thou about? come along with me. The monk makes anſwer, *Nil in me reperies mali, cruenta beſtia.* Thou ſhalt find nothing amiſs in me, ſavage monſter.

The other is the grinding of God's word. Over an ancient altar, the word of God is poured into a mill by the four evangeliſts; the twelve apoſtles work the mill, and the divine word is repreſented as ground to a powder, which biſhops, ſtanding under it, receive into their chalices. The evangeliſts, apoſtles, and biſhops, are ſo ſhockingly drawn, that I queſtion whether Europe affords ſuch another piece of religious buffoonery.

STA-

STATUES.

1. Duke Adolph Frederick, the preſent duke's great grandfather.
2. His conſort, Anna Maria; a very fine piece of ſculpture.
3. Duke Albert, king of Sweden.
4. His conſort.
5. Duke Magnus.
6. Duke Balthaſar.
7. Duke Eric.
8. Margaret queen of Denmark.
9. Baron Bahr, grand marſhal of the court, on horſe-back.

The above ſtatues are done from the life, and ſeveral of them may be deemed excellent performances. Marſhal Bahr's effigies had once a ſilver ſaddle, with a truncheon, ſtirrups, and horſe's ſhoes of the ſame metal; but, in the Thirty Years war, the ſoldiers made free with the ſilver.

Behind the high altar they ſhewed me another ſtatue of a very curious kind, viz. An idol erected on a little altar, and called *Vitzliputzli*, which they pretend to have been worſhipped in the times of paganiſm as the God of rain.

EPITAPHS.

The epitaphs are numerous; I ſhall give you only the moſt remarkable; ſome in Latin, and others tranſlated from the German.

I. *Epi-*

I. *Epitaphium Pribiſlai, primi fundatoris hujus monaſterii, qui fuit filius Nicoloti, Vagriorum, Circipanorum, Polaborum, Obotritorum, Kiſſinorum Vandalorumque regis illuſtriſſimi.*

Primus ego patrios ab Erulis liqui penates,
Atque Pribiſlaus credidi primus ego.
Teſtantur patrium gentilia prælia regum,
Quæ fuerit quondam gloria noſtra potens.
Hanc tandem ut domuit Saxonum dux Leo fortis,
Hunc tibi mox placidum Chriſte dicavi locum.
Irrupit ſævo ſeptis ter Sarmata bello,
Qui vel quot cæſi priſca ruina docet.
Dehinc Solymas adii, rediens dum Troica luſi
Urbe cadens lunæ triſtia fata tuli.
Oblitos ſed ibi cineres religio grata
Noluit, & juſtis condidit illa locis.
Felices ſemper ſi jura tueri nepotes
Priſca loci ſtudeant, & pia cæpta juvent.

II. Epitaphium ducis Henrici Leonis.

Anno 1329, *ipſo die beatæ Agnetæ virginis, in oppido Sternberg, obiit princeps dominus Henricus, cognomine Leo, dux Megapolenſis, nec non Stargardiæ ac Roſtochienſis terrarum dominus, in hoc monaſterio Doberanenſi ſepultus. Hic aſſignavit eidem monaſterio in extremis ſuis fibulam auream valentem* 300 *marcas argenti. Item ſcyphum aureum habentem* 5 *marcas in pondere. Item, Dextratium, valentem* 100 *marcas argenti. Ejus anima cum animabus Progenitorum*

ſuorum

favorum, ac omnium fidelium defunctorum per Dei piam misericordiam, requiescit in pace.

Anno milleno tricentenoque vicено,
Huic numero pleno juncta pariterque novено,
Que rex cælestis est natus tempore mæstis
Ex cujus gestis perit orbis morbida pestis.
Aquæ laudandæ sunt Fastæ semper amandæ,
Hin. Stargardensis dominus quoque Magnopolensis
Ac Rostochiensis, quem nunquam terruit ensis,
Hic jacet humatus hic corpori vilificatus,
Sed Christo gratus vivat sine fine beatus.
Qui legis hæc ora, quod Christus in hac pius hora
Omnia pejora sua lavet ei sine mora,
Dansque sibi rorem præsenti nobiliorem,
Quo largitorem cernat vitæque datorem.

Anno milleno tricen vicenque noveno,
Natus ut ille est quem prædixere Sibyllæ
Dicta die magnæ proh! Hinc plangitur Agnæ
Mecklenburg princeps quem tristis obiisse dolet plebs,
Huic genitrix Christi succurrat in nece tristi,
Damonis arctetur sed justis congratulatur.

III. Duke Albert, a juſt prince, departed this life in 1368. He governed Schwerin, Roſtock, and Stargard, and was a great benefactor to this monaſtery. By his death the public has loſt a Machabeus, who had the qualities of the eagle and the lion, the ſtrength of Sampſon, the beauty of Paris. He died in his 60th year.

4. Duke

IV. Duke Henry, the ſon of Albert. He governed this land with great wiſdom, in conjunction with his brother Magnus. He applied himſelf cloſe to ſtudy; but his philoſophy was to adminiſter juſtice, by which means the merchant could travel in ſafety. He departed this life in 1400.

V. Duke Magnus, ſon of Henry the Corpulent. He was great indeed, and eſteemed as ſuch by kings and princes. Twice did he pay a viſit to the papal court, and once he performed a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The emperor adorned his coat of arms with a roſe. He raiſed the church of St. James's in Roſtock, to the dignity of a cathedral; expelled the Jews from Sternberg; and died of the peſtilence.

VI. Urſula, of the electoral houſe of Brandenburg, wife of Henry the Pacific, departed this life in 1511. She was mother of three children.

VII. Eric, ſon of duke Magnus, was made a biſhop before the canonical time, on account of his erudition. He travelled into Italy; and died at Schwerin in 1505, December the 24th.

VIII. Magnus III. biſhop of Schwerin, departed this life in 1550, the 28th of January, at Butzow. He was a very learned man, profoundly verſed in the Latin tongue, and of acute judgment.

IX. Elizabeth, a Daniſh princeſs. This monument was erected to her memory by her huſband, the abovementioned biſhop.

X. *Deo*

10. *Deo optimo maximo.* Ulric, by the grace of God, duke of Mecklenburg, and his wife Elizabeth, of the royal family of Denmark, have erected this monument in memory of their anceſtors, in 1583.

Then follows a long copy of German verſes, mentioning the princes in ſucceſſion, who lie buried in the church.

11. On baron Baar's monument. *Vixi ut morerer, mortuus ſum ut viverem. Patriam averſatur, cui peregrinatio dulcis eſt. Dies mortis vitæ glorioſiſſimæ natalis eſt. Orta cadunt. Virtus mori neſcit.*

12. But the moſt curious of all the epitaphs, is the following upon a perſon named Peter Wieſe. It is partly German and partly Latin, in ſtanzas of ſix verſes; the firſt of which rhimes to the fourth, the ſecond to the fifth, and the third to the ſixth. This being the moſt extraordinary kind of verſification I ever ſaw, may be not unworthy of your notice. I ſhall give you the German lines with the Latin, to ſhew you the nature of the rhime.

Hier Peter Wieſe { *Tumba requieſcit in iſta.*
Liegt in eener holten kiſte.

Gott geev'em ſpyſe { *Cœleſtem quique legiſta,*
Im hemmel jeder juriſte,

Bidde vor ſiene ſeele. { *Precibus brevibus genitorem,*
Mit korten bede den heren.

Vor daget veele { *Sibi perpetuum det honorem,*
Dat he em wull ewig ehren.

Eeen frund am liefe { *Noſtræ fuit ipſe cohortis,* / Der unſern iſs hie geweſen

Dat hefft he rieve { *Bewieſet tempore mortis.* / In ſienem tode beweſen.

He hefft getuget { *Dulias tres perpetuales.* / Dree deenſte de nig to geringe.

Da uns an genoget { *Res dedit atque ſpeciales,* / Ock gafhee veel ander dinge.

Dr'um ſchall ock bliefen. { *Is noſtra ſub prece vere.* / Hr. Peter in unſer bede.

Un wilt em ſchriefen. { *David in ſolio reſidere,* / To wahnen by David in eener ſtede.

12. We ſhall conclude with the following epitaph on one Pott, which is ſomewhat whimſical:

Here lies Ahleke Pott;
Have pity on me, O Lord God,
As I would have pity on thee,
Wert thou Ahleke Pott,
And I Lord God.

INSCRIPTIONS.

The inſcriptions are very numerous, but few curious; ſo that I did not think it worth while to tranſcribe any more than the following:

1. Upon a table.

Larga Dei pietas veniam non dimidiabit,
Aut nihil, aut totum, te lachrymante, dabit.

2. Under a crucifix.

Effigiem Chriſti qui tranſis ſemper honora,
Non equidem effigiem ſed quem deſignat adora.

3. Upon the great bell.

En ego campana nunquam denuncio vana,
Laudo Deum verum, plebem voco, convoco clerum.
In the year 1301.

4. Under the organ are the following elegant lines:

Hinc venti dociles reſono ſe carcere ſolvunt,
Et cantum accepta pro libertate rependunt.

RELICKS.

In the church of Dobberan are ſtill preſerved many of thoſe relics ſo much reſpected in popiſh times. They are ſhewn now as a curioſity, and a mark of the ignorance and ſuperſtition of former ages. The liſt of them is as follows:

1. A ſmall quantity of flax, which the virgin Mary had for ſpinning.

2. A bundle of hay, which the Three wiſe men of the Eaſt had for their cattle, and left behind them at Bethlem.

3. A bone of Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jeſuits.

4. A piece of poor Lazarus's garment.

5. A bone of St. Chriſtopher, and the firſt joint of his thumb.

6. The ſhoulder-blade of the ſaid St. Chriſtopher.

7. A piece of linen, which the virgin Mary wove with her own hands.

8. A piece of the head belonging to the fiſh mentioned in Tobiah.

9. The napkin which the bridegroom made uſe of at the marriage of Cana in Galilee.

10. Some bones of Mrs. Adams, grandmother of an abbot of Dobberan.

11. A piece of Joſeph's mantle, which he left in the hands of Potiphar's wife, when ſhe tempted him to lie with her.

12. A hair of St. Jerom's muſtachoes.

13. Part of Judas's bowels, which guſhed out as he burſt aſunder.

14. The ſciſſars with which Dalilah cut off Sampſon's hair.

15. A piece of the apron which the butcher wore, when he killed the calf upon the return of the prodigal ſon.

16. A fragment of Chriſt's winding-ſheet.

17. One of the five ſmooth ſtones which David put into his bag, when he went to encounter the giant Goliath.

18. A branch of the tree on which Abſalom hung by the hair.

19. The

19. The ſtone with which Zipporah circumciſed her child on the road.

20. A night-cap of the virgin Mary; with ſome of the bones of the Holy Innocents, ſlaughtered by Herod.

21. A night-cap of the infant Jeſus.

22. The head of St. Thomas the apoſtle.

23. The head of St. Paul.

24. The head of St. Peter.

25. A piece of St. Peter's fiſhing-net.

This is the whole collection, which they preſerve with as much care as if it contained a moſt valuable treaſure. The profeſſor told me that one of the principal relicks had been ſtolen in the laſt century; and it was no leſs than a quill of the angel Gabriel's wing.

After we had fully indulged ourſelves with a ſight of theſe curioſities, we returned to our inn, where the landlord had got us a pretty good dinner; but we drank our own wine, which the profeſſor had the precaution to take with him, and was far preferable to that of the houſe: every thing, however, was clean and neat in the Dutch manner. Dinner being over, I imagined we had nothing more to do but to return to Roſtock. I was miſtaken; the profeſſor told me he muſt ſhew me one of the greateſt curioſities in Europe, at a place two miles diſtant from thence, and known by the name of Heiligendam. While the coach was

getting ready, we walked a little way to ſee a row of cottages, where a linen mnufactory has been lately erected. The cottages were ſo neat, the country ſo pleaſant, and the view of Dobberan church ſo ſtriking, that I own I was captivated with the beauty of the landſcape; and ſhould willingly have choſe this place for a retreat the remainder of my days, *Sit meæ ſedes utinam ſenectæ.*

May Dobb'ran to my lateſt hours
Afford a kind and calm retreat:
There may my labours end, my wand'ring ceaſe,
There all my toils, my ſearches, reſt in peace.

The coach ſoon coming up, we ſtepped in, and after bidding a long adieu to this charming abode, we reached the ſea-ſide, in leſs than half an hour. Here the proſpect is admirable; on the left we beheld a country adorned with luxuriant meads, while the right preſented us with the pleaſing wildneſs of a foreſt. Before us was a vaſt expanſe of water, that angry element, which ſmoothed its rough face, and ſeemed to put on a ſmile at our approach. Two chryſtal rivulets glided gently on through the meads, and joined their ſtreams before they entered the ſea, at a place called Rehtwiſch, where is a ſafe and commodious bay. Heilegendam ſtruck us with ſurpriſe; it has the appearance of a great dyke raiſed by art, to keep off

off the ſea, which would otherwiſe overflow the country. The profeſſor told me, that according to an ancient tradition, this part of the land was fenced in from the ſea by a great wall or dyke, founded on piles, which being inſufficient to ſtem the fury of the ocean, and the people being threatened with an inundation, prayers were ordained throughout the country, to avert the impending calamity: theſe proved ſo efficacious, that by the Divine mercy and providence, this great barrier roſe up of itſelf in one night. The profeſſor, however, looks upon it as a legend. But the great curioſity was the pebbles on the ſea-ſide, which are exceeding beautiful, and hardly two of a colour perfectly alike. We gathered ſeveral, as is the cuſtom of travellers that come this road; and night approaching, we made the beſt of our way back to Roſtock. By that time we got to M. Æpinus's houſe, we were very much tired; yet the good profeſſor would have us ſtay to ſup with him.

Early this morning M. Æpinus ſent me ſome more papers and books relating to Mecklenburg, which make a large bale, and will be troubleſome and expenſive to carry in the poſt-waggon. I propoſe going from hence to Guſtrow, in my way to Strelitz. The profeſſor would not let me have this one day of retirement to myſelf, but has inſiſted upon my dining

with him for the laſt time. M. Schroder was of the party, and has received a letter this morning from New Brandenburgh, which mentions that the duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz had paſſed through that city, in his way to Kolpin, the ſeat of Baron Dewitz, whom he intends to honour with a viſit. This gentleman, M. Schroder, has given me a recommendatory epiſtle to M. Piſtorius at New Brandenburg, who is ſyndic to the ſtates of the province, and reckoned a very learned antiquarian. The profeſſor has favoured me with another to Dr. Hagedorn, an eminent phyſician at Guſtrow, and brother to a lady who went over to England with her majeſty. After dinner I took leave of my two good friends with great concern and regret, penetrated with a deep ſenſe of their favours, and eſpecially of thoſe conferred upon me by the worthy and learned profeſſor.

I muſt now take my leave of you too, my friend, for I am very much tired, and want to prepare myſelf for to-morrow's journey, by a good night's reſt. You ſhall hear from me at Guſtrow; in the mean time I remain with all love and ſincerity,

Dear Sir, your's, &c.

LET-

LETTER VIII.

Guſtrow, September 27, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

I Set out from Roſtock for this place the 23d inſtant, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, in company with a lawyer belonging to Guſtrow, who is a chearful and excellent companion. Moſt part of the way was through well-cultivated lands, but of unequal ſurface. We paſſed by Keſſien, formerly a famous city, now an inſignificant village, diſtant about a mile and an half from Roſtock. The appearance of the country was very agreeable, being a ſucceſſion of verdant hills, with the river Warnow meandering through the vales. Between eleven and twelve we arrived at a village called Kabeſtorp, five miles from Roſtock, and ſoon after we reached the hamlet of Sam, where we dined. My companion and I had taken proviſions with us from Roſtock, otherwiſe we ſhould have fared but poorly; for, as I obſerved

to

ſerved to you before, the inns upon the road throughout this country, are very indifferent. Here we ſtaid above an hour, and about three we proceeded on our journey. In coming out of Sam, we aſcended a hill, and ſoon after reached a pleaſant village called Sprens, ſituated in the neighbourhood of a ſmall lake. The towns of Schwan and Luſſow we left on the right, and it was not long before we eſpied the city of Guſtrow. The number of geeſe ſpread all over the country was prodigious. A ſpirit of induſtry diſplayed itſelf in the peaſants, who were all employed in the open fields; the greater part ploughing with oxen, and ſome few with horſes. They are generally tall, raw-boned men; their hair light-coloured, and very long. The ſituation of Guſtrow is in a bottom, which prevents it from being ſeen at any great diſtance. Near the entrance of the town is a handſome caſcade, formed by the river Nebel, which waſhes its walls. By ſix we reached Guſtrow, and put up at the beſt inn in the city, the maſter of which bears the noble name of Lobkowitz. Since my arrival I have been agreeably entertained in ſeeing a variety of company, and in viewing the curioſities of this town, which greatly ſurpaſſed my expectation.

Guſtrow is the capital of the circle and principality of Wenden, in the dutchy of Mecklen-

lenburg, diſtant about twenty miles from Roſtock. The antiquarians of this country ſuppoſe its name to be Venedic, ſome deriving it from *Gutz-trawei*, implying a green-hill; and others from *Geſtri* and *Row*, ſignifying a number of ditches. The ſituation of this city anſwers to both etymologies, ſince it is ſurrounded with pleaſant eminences, and ſtands on the little river Nebel, by which the adjacent meadows are watered. The Nebel takes its riſe in the neighbourhood of the town of Plawe, and continuing its courſe by Guſtrow and Butzow, empties itſelf into the Warnow. The town was built in 1220, by Henry Burevinus I. His ſon Henry Burevinus II. made a grant to it of the woods of Peemer and Kleeſt, and favoured it with the laws of Schwerin. The circumference of the town is not quite three miles, but it is very populous, and reckoned the pleaſanteſt in Mecklenburg. The ſtreets are ſpacious and regular, ſome of them planted with trees, and the houſes neatly built. The chief courts of judicature for the dutchy are held in this city, and here is alſo a ſuperintendency for the direction of eccleſiaſtical affairs. This is what renders the town ſo populous, and has overſtocked it with lawyers. The frequent appeals to the aulic court, and to Wetzlar, make buſineſs for theſe gentlemen, whom I ſeldom hear talk of any thing but the *Gravamina* of their clients. The great market-place is a ſpacious area, where ſtands the town-houſe,

houſe, a large but ancient ſtructure. They have alſo a gymnaſium, or public grammar-ſchool, which is held in good repute, and filled with able profeſſors. The principal trade of the inhabitants, for a long time, was their ſtrong beer, which they brewed very good, and agreeable to the ſtomach. It was called in the Venedic language *Kneſeknack*, which ſignifies princely beer, from John the Theologian, prince of Mecklenburg, who was fond of this liquor. But after all my ſearches, I could get none of it; and what they commonly drink here is a new beverage, very ſweet, and, I believe, unwholeſome.

The town has ſome edifices deſerving of a traveller's notice. There are two churches, the dome and the pariſh church, beſides a chapel dedicated to the Holy Ghoſt. The two latter contain nothing curious, but the dome is one of the moſt remarkable ſtructures in the whole dutchy of Mecklenburg. It was built by Henry Burevinus II. prince of Mecklenburg, in 1226, and dedicated to St. Cecilia. The architecture is Gothic, and the outſide not very ſtriking; but within it is airy and lightſome, and moreover adorned with a great number of inſcriptions and ſumptuous monuments. As moſt of theſe relate to the dukes of Mecklenburg, I ſhall give you a ſhort account of them.

The

The firſt monument is of Henricus Burevinus. It is of a grey marble, three and twenty feet high, and the ſame in breadth. The cornice is of the Corinthian order, and over is an ornament with theſe letters:

H. G. V. G.

Underneath is the date,

1575.

ULRIC, duke of MECKLENBURG.
A. I. G. G.
ELIZABETH, dutcheſs of MECKLENBURG.

On each ſide of the ornament is a ſtatue five feet high, one repreſenting Juſtice, the other Charity. The work is ſupported by two fluted pilaſters, in the Corinthian order. The baſe is covered with marble, where Henry Burevinus in armour, and at full length, reclines on a cuſhion. On the pane is a genealogical table of all the dukes of Mecklenburg, engraved in gold letters in relief, upon a blue ground, and ſupported by little figures of genii or angels. Over the cornice are ſix banners, of which only the ſtaves are remaining.

In the frieze of the baſe, is the following inſcription in the German language.

The

The genealogy of the dukes of Mecklenburg, beginning with Henry Burevinus, ſon of Burevinus, founder of this Dome in the year of our Lord 1226; who was thrice married: firſt, to Sophia, daughter of the king of Sweden, by whom he had four ſons and two daughters; ſecondly, to a dutcheſs of Saxony, in 1228; thirdly, to a counteſs of Ruppin, in 1228; to the memory of which Henry Burevinus, who was buried here in 1228, and to the honour of the princely line, duke Ulric of Mecklenburg erected this monument in the year of our Lord 1574.

The ſecond monument is of Dorothea of Denmark, dutcheſs of Mecklenburg.

It is twelve feet in height, and nine in breadth. The body is of black marble, with red marble columns of the Tuſcan order. The cornice is alſo of black marble in the Tuſcan order. On the baſe lies the dutcheſs Dorothea in white marble, at full length, with a white cuſhion, in the ancient Teutonic dreſs. In the freeze of the baſe are two tables of white marble, with ſome ſcriptural ſentences, and enriched, beſides, with all manner of decorations. In the pane is the following epitaph in Roman letters:

EPI-

EPITAPHIUM.

Primi Danorum Friderici filia regis,
E Sophia illuſtri Pomerana principe nata,
Chriſtophori Megalepoleos ducis inclytâ conjunx,
Quam pietas, quam pura fides, quam gratia morum
Hervinarum decus effecere Deique
Donis Dorotheam fama ſuper æthera notam,
Huc tulit oſſa obiens, animam tu Chriſte tuliſti,
Hæc moeſta Eliſabeth poſuit monumenta ſorori.
Deceſſit die XI. Novembri,
Anno Chriſti MDLXXV.

The third monument is of Ulric, duke of Mecklenburg.

This is ſeventeen feet high, and twenty-ſeven in breadth. The body is of black marble. The pane is divided into two compartments, by two columns of red marble, finely decorated. The cornice is ſupported by two pilaſters of white marble, with *termini* in the Ionic order. On the right is Faith, holding in one hand the croſs, in the other a book. On the left is Prudence, with a mirror in one hand, and in the other a twining ſerpent, at full length. Behind the columns are fluted pilaſters. The cornice is of the Compoſite order. On the baſe are three ſtatues, at full length, kneeling on cuſhions of white marble, with an ornament to each ſtatue.

First Statue.

Duke Ulric, in armour and bare-headed; before him lie his helmet and gauntlets: here alſo is a pedeſtal in the Tuſcan order, with the arms of Mecklenburg and other ornaments, and a book ſpread open upon a deſk. His hands are joined, as if praying. On the pane is the genealogy of his anceſtors, to the fifth line, The arms and tables are ſupported by little figures, or images of angels; the whole of white marble. Over the ornament in the cornice, the arms of Mecklenburg are engraved; and underneath this inſcription:

1585.
H. G. V. V. G*.
ULRIC, Duke of MECKLENBURG.

Second Statue.

In the other compartment or ſection, lies the dutcheſs Elizabeth, the firſt wife of duke Ulric, in the ancient Teutonic dreſs, done from the life, and kneeling upon a cuſhion of white marble; before her is a pedeſtal, with a book and deſk, as before the duke her huſband. In the pane is her genealogy, to the fifth deſcent, and ſupported by ſmall figures of angels. Under theſe figures and arms,

* Thoſe capitals ſtand for the following German words, *Herr Gott verleihe uns gnade*, that is, *Lord God, grant us grace.*

are ſome ſentences from the Bible, particularly theſe words from the ſecond chapter of St. Luke, put into verſe: "Lord, now letteſt thou thy ſervant depart in peace, &c.". Over the ornament in the cornice are the arms of Denmark, and underneath:

1585.

A. N. G. W*.

ELIZABETH DUTCHESS OF MECKLENBURG.

In the frieze of the baſe are the following lines in Roman letters.

Dn. Eliſabethæ ſereniſſ. Daniæ & Norvegiæ.
Regum Frideric. I. filiæ, Chriſtiani III. ſorori,
Primum Magni. deinde Ulrici illuſtriſſ. ducum
Megapol. conjugi. quorum huic peperit Sophiam.
Friderico II. regi Septentrionis Max. nuptum eſt.
Qua cum Nepotes III. & inter eos etiam Chriſtianum.
IV. Regem electum. & Nept. IV. natus. Aviæ feliciſſ.
Cum Marito in Dania inviſiſſet. in ipſo ad
Megapol. ſuos redita. dum in Falſtria auſtro
Adverſo tenetur febri correpta. ibidemque
XV. Octobr. ex ſuorum oculis. non animo
Sublata. pie. expiravit: & xxiii. Novemb.

* Theſe capitals ſtand for the following German words, *Alles nach Gottes willen*, that is, *All as God pleaſeth.*

Monumento huic exuvias ſuas ſpe lætiſs. Reſurrect. intulit. an. æt. lxvi. Chriſti CIↃIↃXXCVI. Matri patriæ et conſorti Optatiſſ. viduus mæſtiſſ. p.

THIRD STATUE.

The third ſtatue in the third compartment or ſection, is that of Anna, the ſecond wife of duke Ulric; it is alſo of white marble, kneeling in an ancient Teutonic dreſs, with a pedeſtal in the Tuſcan order, the arms of Pomerania upon it, and over that a book and cuſhion. In the pane is her genealogy, with images and coats of arms. Underneath are ſome ſentences from the Bible; upon the ornament in the cornice are the arms of Pomerania, and at bottom:

1599.

H. G. A. A. N*.

ANNE, DUTCHESS OF MECKLENBURG.

Near the ornaments are four ſtatues, three yards high, Piety, Charity, Hope and Fortitude; and over them ſome leſſer figures, with the image of Chriſt in the middle, and the reſt with lighted torches in their hands.

The above three ſtatues of duke Ulric and both his wives, are done exactly from the life;

* The above capitals ſtand for the following German words, *Hilff Gott aus aller noth*, that is, *Deliver us, O God, out of all diſtreſs.*

and

and it is ſaid that the ſtatuary was obliged to change the head of the dutcheſs Ann three times, before the duke could be ſatisfied. Between the cornice and the architrave in the frieze, are ſome ſcriptural ſtories, beginning with the Annunciation of the virgin Mary, and continued under the pillars in the dies of the pedeſtals, to Chriſt's aſcenſion, three-and-twenty in number, and curiouſly wrought in white marble. Both the ſtatues and the hiſtorical pieces are all of exquiſite workmanſhip: ſo perfectly are the muſcles, lineaments and drapery expreſſed, as to excite admiration. The whole work has been ſeveral times repaired and beautified, and laſtly in 1709. Theſe monuments are all incloſed in a fine iron balluſtrade ſixty-one feet long, four and a half high.

TOMBS OF THE PRINCES OF THIS FAMILY IN THE CHOIR BEFORE THE GREAT ALTAR.

In the middle of the upper choir is a tomb of grey marble, ſix feet and a half long, four feet four inches broad, and near three feet high. On the right hand is the following inſcription in golden letters in the German tongue:

Pribiſlaus, the ſecond king of the Venedi, great-grand-father of duke Henry Burevinus the younger.

Then the Venedic arms.

Voisclava, born queen of Norway, great-grand-mother of duke Henry Burevinus the younger.

Then the Northern Lion as her arms.

On the left ſide is this inſcription.

Henry Burevinus the elder, duke of Mecklenburg, and prince of Wenden, father of duke Henry Burevinus the younger.

Then the Venedic arms.

Matilda, born queen of Poland, mother of duke Henry Burevinus the younger.

Then the Poliſh eagle as her arms.

The covering is of marble ſeven feet long, and four feet four inches broad. On the top is the Venedic buffalo, with a ring: cloſe by are the three crowns from the Swediſh arms; and underneath the following inſcription.

Henry Burevinus, duke of Mecklenburg, founder of this Dome, departed this life in the year of our Lord 1228.

Sophia,

Sophia, born queen of Sweden, dutcheſs of Mecklenburg, wife of Henry Burevinus.

Underneath is a vault four feet broad, and ſeven long, where, after Henry Burevinus, the following princes of Werle and Wenden were interred. Nicholas, in 1277. Laurence, the 15th of September, 1393. Balthaſar, the 5th of April, 1421. William, prince of Werle and Wenden, September 7, 1436. With this prince, who was the laſt of his line, his helmet and ſhield were conſigned to the earth.

THE VAULT OR BURYING PLACE BELONGING TO JOHN ALBERT, DUKE OF MECKLENBURG, AND HIS PRINCELY LINE.

To this vault, which is before the altar, and covered with a tomb-ſtone, you have an eaſy deſcent. Here are depoſited the remains of ſeveral of the dukes and princes of this family, with inſcriptions.

I. A flat block-tin coffin, with this inſcription:

Her ſerene highneſs, Elizabeth dutcheſs of Mecklenburg, of the houſe of Heſſe Caſſel, was born at Caſſel, the 28th of March, 1596; and in that ſame place, and on the ſame day of the month, anno 1618, was married to John Albert, coadjutor of

the biſhop of Ratzeburg, duke of Mecklenburg, &c. died at Guſtrow the 16th of December, 1625, firmly believing in Chriſt, and invoking God's mercy.

decorated with the ducal arms, and ſentences from ſcripture.

II. A raiſed block-tin coffin, ſeven feet and an half long, on which is the following inſcription in Latin.

Princeps. beatiſſimus. Joannes Albertus, dux Mecklenburg. &c. Natus die. v. Maii, anni M.D.XC. Patre Johanne, duce Mecklenburg. matre. Sophia. duce Holſatiæ, &c. die ix. Octobr. anni 1608. *Stockholmii. Primum. matrimonium. feliciter. init. cum. Margareta Eliſabeta. filia Chriſtophori & Eliſabetæ. ducum. Mecklenburg. ſed. illa. die xxii. Decembr. anni* 1611. *mortua. Ad. ſecundas. nuptias. progreſſus. uxorem. ducit. Eliſabetham. Mauritii. principis. Cattorum. filiam. quæ. quum. improlis. decederet. die xv. Decembr. anni.* 1625. *Ita volente. Deo. Tertiam. ſibi. conjugem. ex. familia. Anhaltina. elegit. Quæ etiamnum beatiſſime. defuncto. Marito. ſupervivit. Eleonoram. Mariam. filiam. Chriſtiani. principis. Anhaltini. ſolemnibus. nuptiarum. celebratis. Guſtroviæ. die vii. Maij. Ann.* 1626. *Et. ex. ea. ſuſcepit. Guſtavum Adolphum. ſpem ſolam. propaginis. principatum. adiit. Guſtroviæ. die. xi. Julii. Anni* 1611. *In exilium. una. cum. uxore. et. liberis. ejectus. anno. MDCXXVIII. Inde. cum iiſdem. feliciter. rediit. die xviii. Julii. anni*

anni. 1631. *tandem. die. xxiii. Aprilis. anni.* 1636. *aliquot menſes. ante. æger. affectu. hydropico. firma. in. Jeſu Chriſti. redemptoris. ſui. nixus. fiducia. fuſis. ſubinde. ad. Deum. precibus. et ſuſpiriis. in. conſpectu. omnium. fere. miniſtrorum. ſuorum. horam. intra. noctis. xi. & xii. cum. lacrymis. aſtantium. placide. et. beate. obdormivit. quum. vixiſſet. annos. xlv. menſes xi. Septiman. ii. horas iv. conditus. monumento die xxx. Junii. Anni.* 1636. *Hic. expectat. reſurrectionem.*

On both ſides, and round the inſcription, are ſeveral ſentences out of the Bible; at the top are the arms of Mecklenburg; and at the bottom thoſe of Holſtein.

III. A block-tin coffin, eight feet and an half long, with a raiſed cover, and the following inſcription:

Sereniſſimæ principis ac dominæ dominæ Eleonoræ Mariæ, ducis Mecklenburgenſis, natæ ex Anhaltinorum illuſtriſſima familia anno 1600, *die* 17 *Auguſti. deſponſatæ ſereniſſimo duci Johanni Alberto, Mecklenburgenſi. anno* 1626. *die* 7 *Maii. Principis optimæ, cujus vix ſimilem patria noſtra vidit, exanimum corpus in hoc loculo ſepultum jacet. Mortua eſt princeps beatiſſima anno Chriſti ſalvatoris* 1656, *die.* 7 *Julii. ætat.* 57. *& ejuſdem anni menſis Septembris die* 16. *a ſereniſſimo filio duce Guſtavo Adolpho, ejus reliquæ hic terræ mandatæ.*

IV. A raiſed block-tin coffin, ſeven feet and a half long, with the following inſcription:

Celſiſſimæ principis ac dominæ dominæ Annæ Sophiæ, ducis Lignicenſis in Sileſia, natæ ex Mecklenburgenſium ducum ſereniſſima familia anno 1628, *deſponſatæ celſiſſimo duci Ludovico Lignicenſi in Sileſia, anno* 1648. *Principis optimæ, &c. exanimum corpus in hoc loculo ſepultum jacet: anno Chriſti ſervatoris* 1666. *x. Februar. demortuæ & 29. Maij. ejuſdem anni. A ſereniſſimo fratre duce Guſtavo Adolpho. ejus reliquiæ hic terræ mandatæ. Joh. xi.* 25. *Ego ſum reſurrectio, &c.*

V. A block-tin coffin, with a flat cover; the inſcription in German:

Phil. i. 21. For me to live is Chriſt, and to die is gain.

Anno 1635, the 20th of May, at ſeven in the morning, was born the moſt ſerene princeſs Louiſa, dutcheſs of Mecklenburg, princeſs of Wenden, counteſs of Schwerin, &c. And anno 1648, the 6th of January, at three in the afternoon, ſhe departed this life at the princely reſidence of Strelitz; and April the 27th, the ſame year, her body was removed to this repoſitory.

VI. A block-tin coffin, with a flat covering, and the following Latin inſcription:

Princeps ſanctiſſima Margareta Elizabeta, Patre Chriſtophoro duce Megapolitano. Matre Elizabeta Guſtavi, regis Suec. filia. d. xi. Jul. anni. 1584. *nata. d. ix. Octob.* 1608. *Johanni Alberto, principi Megapolenſium in uxorem tradita, quatuor liberorum, Johannis Chriſtophori, Sophiæ Elizabetæ, Chriſtinæ Margaretæ, & Caroli Henrici, quorum primus illam in regnum coelorum præceſſit, mater facta, d.* 16 *Novemb.* 1616. *in vera Dei agnitione & ſancta invocatione denata, annos xxxii. menſes iv. die v. vixit & hoc monumento dormit, a vivorum et mortuorum judice benigno reſurrectionem et vitam expectans æternam.*

VII. A ſmall flat coffin with the following Latin inſcription:

Piis manibus illuſtriſſimi principis domini Caroli Henrici, ducis Megapolitani filii. dni. Johannis Alberti, nepotis, dni. Johannis; pro-nepotis, dni. Johannis Alberti; ab-nepotis dni. Alberti; at-nepotis dni. Magni; tri-nepotis dni. Henrici, &c. Ducum Megapolenſium, nati in hanc lucem anno Chriſti CIↃIↃCXVI. menſe Maij. die. xxx. hora v. matutina, placide denati anno CIↃIↃCXVII. menſe Novembri, die xiv. hora vi. veſpertina cum vixiſſet annos li. menſes v. dies xv. horas xiii. Reverendiſſimus & illuſtriſſimus parens poni matrique ſuæ beatiſſimæ & hunc filium deſideratiſſimum cum luctu adponi curavit.

VIII. A ſmall flat coffin of block tin, with the following inſcription:

For

For me to live is Chriſt, and to die is gain.

John Chriſtopher, ſon of his ſerene highneſs John Albert, duke of Mecklenburg, and of the dutcheſs Margaret Elizabeth, was born the 22d of December, anno 1611, and departed this life the 12th of March, 1612; he was removed hither the 30th of the ſame month. At the top are the arms of Mecklenburg, and the following verſes at bottom:

Quem nocturna dedit florem Lucina Decembri,
Luridus in feſſo Martius ungue metit.
O inſperatum caſum! qui creſcere debet
Et florere diu, carpitur ante diem.

Aliud.

Hic princeps Henetum ſitus quieſcit
Hoſpes ſidereæ novellus aulæ,
Danus Chriſtophorus trimeſtris ævi,
O, ſi quis pudor, erubeſce mortuo.

The remaining ornaments conſiſt of ſentences from Holy Writ.

IX. A ſmall flat coffin of block tin, with this inſcription under the arms.

Her ſerene highneſs Eleonora, dutcheſs of Mecklenburg, princeſs of Wenden, counteſs of Schwerin, lady of Roſtock and Stargard, was born the 24th of November, anno 1630, deceaſed the 12th of September 1631,

1631, and was buried the ſame year the 21ſt of September.

X. Another ſmall tin coffin, with the following inſcription:

Anno 1629, the ſecond of November, and at eight o'clock in the morning, his ſerene highneſs John Chriſtian, duke of Mecklenburg, &c. came into this world, and made his exit the 30th of Decemb. anno 1631, at two in the afternoon, in the princely reſidence of Guſtrow, where his body was interred with due honours the 12th of January in the following year, 1632.

On the wall by the left ſide of the altar, were ſeven banners; only the ſtaves of which are remaining.

THE VAULT OR BURYING PLACE OF DUKE ULRIC OF MECKLENBURG, AND OTHER PRINCES OF THAT FAMILY.

The vault or burying place of duke Ulric of Mecklenburg has a very eaſy deſcent. At the entrance on the right is a piece of marble enchaſed in the wall, with the following inſcription:

Her

Her royal and ſerene highneſs Elizabeth, of the royal houſe of Denmark, ducheſs of Mecklenburg, princeſs of Wenden, &c. built this vault for herſelf, in the year 1561, at the time of a raging peſtilence.

Here are interred the following illuſtrious perſonages:

I. Duke Ulric of Mecklenburg, in a block tin coffin, with the arms of the family. He died at Guſtrow in 1603, the 14th of March, in his ſeventy-ſixth year.

II. On the left hand duke Ulric's firſt wife Elizabeth, of the royal line of Denmark, in a block-tin coffin. She died in 1586, the 15th of October, in the ſixty-third year of her age.

III. On the right hand duke Ulric's ſecond wife, Anna princeſs of Pomerania, in a block-tin coffin. She departed this life at Grabow, ann. 1626, the 10th of September, ætat. ſeventy-two.

IV. Duke Charles, brother and ſucceſſor of duke Ulric, in a wooden coffin, covered with red velvet. He died at Guſtrow, anno 1610, the 22d of July, in his ſeventieth year.

V. At the feet of this prince, on the left hand, lies in a wooden coffin, princeſs Dorothea, of the royal family of Denmark, firſt wife of duke Chriſtopher of Mecklenburg, and ſiſter of dutcheſs Elizabeth of Guſtrow. She departed this life anno 1575, the 11th of November at

Schon-

Schonberg, and was interred here the 18th of December following. This is the firſt body interred in this vault.

VI. A raiſed block-tin coffin of prince John, the firſt-born ſon of duke Guſtavus Adolphus of Mecklenburg Guſtrow, who died of the ſmall-pox, the 6th of Feb. 1660, in the fifth year of his age. On the coffin is this inſcription:

Celſiſſimi. principis. ac. domini. Johannis. ducis. Mecklenburgici. principis. Vandalorum. Suerinenſis. et Ratzeburgenſis. nec. non. comitis. Suerinenſis. terrarum. Roſtochii. et. Stargardiæ. dynaſtæ. principis. primogeniti. terrarum. Guſtrovio. Mecklenburgenſium. tunc. heredis. unici. principis. Maximæ. ſpei. nati. et. renati. anno. Chr. M.DC LV die 11. *Decembr. denati. anno. Chr. M.DC.LX. die. vi. Februar. Demortuum. corpus hæc. tumba. tegit.*

VII. In a raiſed coffin of Engliſh block-tin lies the body of princeſs Eleonora, eldeſt daughter of duke Guſtavus Adolphus of Mecklenburg-Guſtrow. She died of the ſmall-pox, ann. 1672, the 24th of February.

The inſcription is as follows:

Celſiſſima. princeps. Eleonora. ſereniſſimi. ducis. Mecklenburgenſis. domini. Guſtavi. Adolphi. ex. ſereniſſima Magdalena Sibylla. Holſatiæ. principe. filia. primogenita. deſideratiſſima. nata. eſt. in ſede. ducali. Guſtrovii. anno 1657. *die* 1. *Junii. Princeps. fuit. animi.*

animi. et. corporis. dotibus. ornatiſſima. pietatis. et omnium. virtutum. locupletiſſima. et. earum. rerum. quæ. ſexum. ejus. decent. ſcientiſſima. cum. anno. 1672. 24. *Februarii. morbo. afflicta. meliore. ſui. parte. ad. ſuperna. migraret. corpus. ejus. pietate. patris. huic. loculo. incluſum. expectat. reſurrectionem.*

THE VAULT OR BURYING PLACE OF DUKE GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS OF MECKLENBURG GUSTROW, AND HIS FAMILY.

This vault is cloſe by the ſacriſty or veſtry-room, and was built by duke Guſtavus Adolphus, who died in this city, after a long illneſs, on the 26th of October, 1695. His body lies in a block tin coffin, with the following inſcription:

Sereniſſimus princeps. ac dominus. dm. Guſtavus Adolphus, dux Mecklenburgenſis, princeps Vandaliæ, Suerini et Raceburgi, comes Suerinenſis, terrarum Roſtochii et Stargardiæ dominus, ſacri Rom. Imperii. prin-ceps ex primariis, ab antiquis Obotritorum regibus deſcendens, ingenio et divinis animi dotibus nemini ſecundus, natus anno Chriſti, MDCXXXIII. die 26. *Februarii, cum patrium ducatum quadraginta unum & amplius annos glorioſe rexiſſet, erga Deum pius, erga ſuos benignus, erga ſubditos mitis, erga omnes comis et beneficus, die* 26 *Octob. anno MDCXCV. in Domino placide obdormivit, lineæ maſculæ, ambobus filiis, quos ex Magdalena Sibylla, Fridericii, Holſatiæ ducis filia ſuſceperat, ante patrem defunctis, ultimus, quod habuit mortale, hic*

conditum

conditum eſt. Anima ad Deum, unde venit, rediit. Memoria juſti eſt in benedictione. Proverb. 10.

II. In a block-tin coffin is depoſited the body of the above prince's widow, the dutcheſs Magdalena Sibylla, with this inſcription in German:

Here lieth a princeſs moſt remarkable for longevity, Magdalena Sibylla, dutcheſs of Mecklenburg, heireſs of Norway, dutcheſs of Sleſwick, Holſtein, Stormar, and Ditmarſh, counteſs of Oldenburg and Delmenhorſt, &c. who, to the great joy of the moſt illuſtrious houſe of Gottorp, was born anno 1631, the 14th of November; and for the welfare of the country of Mecklenburg was married the 28th of November, 1654, to his ſerene highneſs Guſtavus Adolphus, duke of Mecklenburg Guſtrow, prince of Wenden, &c. Happily for the ſtate ſhe reſided ſixty-five years in Guſtrow, and at length exchanged this life for a better, the 22d of September, 1719, in the twenty-fourth year of her widow-hood, and the eighty-eighth year of her age, after having given the higheſt proofs of her faith, piety, and princely benignity. Her remains will flouriſh in the manſions of Death, and her name will be for ever loved and revered among mankind.

III. In a block-tin coffin lies the body of prince Charles, ſon and heir of duke Guſtavus Adolphus, which Charles, to the great grief of the ſerene family, and of the whole country, died of the ſmall-pox the 15th of March, 1688.

The inſcription is as follows:

Sereniſſimus & celſiſſimus princeps ac dominus Carolus princeps hereditarius, et, ſi viviſſet, ſucceſſor ducatus Mecklenburgenſis, Vandaliæ, Suerini, & Ratzeburgi princeps, comes Suerini, terrarum Raſtoc & Stargardiæ dominus, natus anno æræ Chriſtianæ 1664, die 8 Novembr. Matrimonio junctus Mariæ Amaliæ, principi ex familia electorum Brandenburgica. Quo paucis menſibus fruens, acerba morte, in flore ætatis, 24 anni. cum ingenti ſuorum luctu extinctus eſt anno 1688, die 15. Martii. Princeps prudens, egregius, optimus. Sit memoria ejus in pace.

IV. In a copper coffin, adorned with ſeveral figures of gilt braſs, lies the body of princeſs Magdalena, who died the 19th of February, 1702. The inſcription is in German.

Magdalen, by the grace of God, dutcheſs of Mecklenburg, princeſs of Wenden, Suerin, and Ratzeburg, &c. born anno 1656, the 4th of July, departed this life anno 1702, the 19th of February.

V. In a raiſed copper coffin, alſo much decorated, lies the wife of duke Adolphus Frederick

of

of Mecklenburg Strelitz, a princeſs of the line of Guſtrow. She died at the court of Strelitz, and her body was removed hither the 16th of February, 1701. The inſcription is as follows in German:

Maria, by birth and by marriage, dutcheſs of Mecklenburg, princeſs of Wenden, Schwerin, and Ratzeburg, &c. born anno 1659, the 9th of July, and died the 16th of January, 1701.

VI. In a ſmall wooden coffin, covered with red velvet, and curiouſly decorated with braſs ornaments, are depoſited the bodies of three of the children of the abovementioned duke Adolphus Frederic of Mecklenburg Strelitz, and his dutcheſs Maria, of Mecklenburg Guſtrow. Theſe are: Magdalena Amelia, born the 25th of April, and deceaſed the 28th of the ſame month, 1689. Maria, born Auguſt the 7th, 1690, and deceaſed in the ſame year. Eleonora Wilhelmina, born and deceaſed the 8th of July, 1691. The inſcriptions conſiſt of ſentences from the ſcripture, as, "Suffer the little children to come unto me;" Mark x.

OTHER MONUMENTS AND INSCRIPTIONS IN THE DOME OR CATHEDRAL OF GUSTROW.

Beſides the above monuments and inſcriptions belonging to the ſerene family, there are

others in honour of many illuſtrious perſons. I ſhall give you an account of thoſe moſt worthy of notice.

I. Near the chancel, a monument erected to Joachim Stralendorp, with his arms in white marble, and this inſcription:

Nobliſſimo et ſtrenuo v. dn. Joachimo a Stralendorp, equiti Megapoli. an. æræ. Chr. CIↃICLVI. patre Joachimo a Stralendorp, matre Annæ v. de Luhe nata in aula illius. Sri. principis Udalrici, ducis Megapo. feliciſſimæ recordationis a pueritia et aliis officiis, & multis tandem annis cubicularii munere defuncto, anno Æ. C. CIↃIↃCI. die Dionyſii, ætatis xlvi. beate mortuo, hic ſepulto, & glorioſam reſurrectionem expectanti monumentum hoc, fratri quondam dilectiſſimo, fratres & ſorores, amoris & memoriæ ergo, erigendum curarunt:

Hic quoque Joachimus patria tellure quieſcit,
Stralendorpiadum progeneratus avis,
Quem poliit pietas, aulæ quem gratia cinxit,
Dum potuit vitam continuare ſuam.
Sed nec eum pietas, nec gratia protegit aulæ,
Dum morbo mortem non remorante cadit.
Lazarus at veluti Chriſto mandante reſurgit,
Iſte die extremo ſic rediturus erit.

Nicol. Petræus. H. H. Theo. D. F.

II. A monument to Joſhua Arndius, with the following inſcription:

Joſua

Joſua Arndius. Henetus. Dei. ſervorum. minimus. peccatorum. maximus. penitentium. humillimus. poſt. varia. fidei. certamina. poſt. funeſtas. familiæ. clades. poſt. aulæ. et. mundi. procellas. omnia. in. virtute. crucis. mortem. denique. ipſam. in. ſanguine. Chriſti. die. v. Aprilis. circa. vi. veſpertinam. anni. M.DC.LXXXVII. ætatis. lxi. patienter. et. feliciter. ſuperatam. Hic reſurrectionem. juſtorum. expectat. curantibus. vidua. et. liberis. mæſtiſſimis. . .

. . . . . .

Viator. Abi. et. mundum. contemne. Vale.

III. A monument erected to Margaret Mayer, by her father Chriſtopher Mayer, preacher of this church. She died in the month of Feburary, on Candlemas-day, 1572. The inſcription is extremely curious, where the father introduces his daughter giving the following account of herſelf in Latin verſe:

Margaris hoc tumulo mærente Mageria condor,
Æthere ſed gaudet ſpiritus, oſſa ſolo.
Fonte ſacro ſacrata Deo ſacrataque Chriſto
Salvificante fide, ſpirituique Deo.
Chara fuit charo verum eſt utrique parenti,
Forte ſuo ſi quæ filia chara fuit.
Quare? quod Chriſtum colui, dulceſque parentes
Sum venerata meos menteque, voce, pia.
Juſſa Dei, dictante mihi trinæque ſorori
Patre, mei lucrum ſedula depoſui

Auribus arrectis, intentis ſemper ocellis,
Mente ſteti . . . . (deeſt aliquid)
Sic potui, ſtudio facili, quæſita monenti
Reddere, felici dexteritate, patri.
Hei velut umbra dies fugiunt, moriens morientis
Floſque velut campi vita caduca perit.
Quæris ut hoc auſim vultu quo dicere? dicam,
Auribus aptatis ſuſcipe dicta precor.
Vix tribuente mihi vitam bis quatuor annos,
Mox vitæ ſolvit mors inopina dies.
Spes erat in multos annos pia gaudia duci
De me, perſpecta jam probitate mea,
Non ſimulata cui pietas fuit addita ſemper;
Spem tulit aſt omnem protinus una dies.
Vive igitur, quicunque Deo vis vivere, juſté,
Humanis præfer religioſa tuis.
Dogma ſacrum Chriſti ſitientibus hauri,
Pectore ſacra tuo ſæpe revolve Dei.
Fide Deo, confide tuis nec viribus unquam,
Funde tuas Chriſto nocte dieque preces.
Ad nutum Domini mandatos dirige greſſus,
Inque tuas dextre curre recurre vias.
Judiciique diem venientis reſpice Chriſti,
Extremum ſimili ſic tua fata modo.
Fac Deus omnipotens Deus, O pater optime Chriſti
Cœlorum capiant ſceptra benigna tui
Credentes, baculus regat & tua virga fideles,
Eloquium verbi nunc ſine fine tuos
Gaudia cum Chriſto ducant ſimul omne per ævum,
Cœlicolis ſanctis angeliciſque choris. Amen.

IV. But

IV. But of all the monuments in this church, the moſt beautiful, except thoſe belonging to the ducal family, is that of Gunther Paſſau, miniſter to duke Guſtavus Adolphus of Mecklenburg Guſtrow, who is ſaid to have written the two following elegant inſcriptions. The chapel in which this miniſter lies buried, is faced with marble. His ſtatue of white marble is as big as the life, and he is repreſented kneeling on a cuſhion, with a mantle over his ſhoulders. The baſe is of black marble, ſix feet five inches long, three feet deep, and three in breadth. His face is turned to the north, on which ſide the following inſcription is to be ſeen on the wall:

O. ſoſipater. ſeculi. parens. Deus.
O. vita. mundi. ſpes. tuorum. ſeu. tonet.
Seu. rideat. ſors. civitatum. robur. eſt.
Arx. tuta. regum. nominis. tui. fides.
Hanc. ira. nulla. nec. malus. furor. poteſt.
Fundo. ciere. quo. reſedit. intimo.
Tu. cinge. fines. Angeli. cuſtodia.
Serva. regentes. conſulentes. inſtrue.
Et fida. corda. da. pie. parentibus.
Te. templa. ludi. curia. collegia.
Colant. beata. cuncta. ſint. te. præſide.
Æterna. donec. patriæ. ingruat. quies.

Eaſtward, on the right hand of the ſtatue, is an inſcription in German, ſignifying

that duke Guſtavus Adolphus of Mecklenburg Guſtrow, erected the above monument in the year 1659, to his privy-counſellor Gunther Paſſau, out of regard to his memory.

On the other ſide is the following inſcription, much admired for its elegance:

Guntero Paſſovio,

Nobili. Mecklenburgenſi. vetuſtæ. gentis. et. antiquæ. virtutis. Zehnæ. ac. Gremlini. domino. intraque. ſacrum. principis. conſiſtorium. conſiliario. Anno. CIↃIↃCV. a. D. xxiiv. Junii. claris. parentibus. nato. quique. poſtquam. virili. togæ. ſumptæ. in. publico. promptior. in. ſpem. firmus. adverſis. verſari. cæpit. civibus. ſuis. doctrinæ. et. prudentiæ. robur. probavit. mox. variis. exterorum. votis. expetitus. cum. frui. potius. hac. mortali. vita. quam. abuti. ſemel. a juventute. ſtatuiſſet. beneficiis. talibus. uti. voluit. aut. in literis. aut. in prædiis. paternis. verſari. contentus. tandem. tamen. patriæ. ſub. exemplo. et. duci. ſereniſſimi. principis. Guſtavi. Adolphi. ætatis. ſuæ. anno. ulix. Chriſti. vero. CIↃIↃCLIV. Servire. cæpit. brevi. trium. annorum. ſed. raro. uſu. ita. ubique. et. ſemper. inventus. ut. quod. vivus. non. permiſiſſet. hoc. a. pietate. Domini. ſui. meruerit. monumentum. vir. longiori. vita. dignus. ſi. malitiæ. ſæculi. æſtimaret. pius. ad. exemplum. uſque. probi. moris. conſtans. tam. recti. bonique. tenax. quam. falſi. fictique. ignarus. conſilio. validus. quæ. propria. ei. virtus. erat. et. cui. fortuna. non. minus. quam. natura. uſum. bene. ſuadendi. dederat. liber. apertus. fidelis.

ſermonis. comti. et. percellentis. negotiis. gerundis. quietus. et. indûſtrius. paucis. ſui. rector. optimus. in. omnibus. ſingularis. nam. et. Chriſtianus. egregius. et. civis. bonus. erat. et. reipubl. peritus. et. juriſconſultus. et. magnus. ſenator. probabilis. orator. et. cupidiſſimus. literarum. ſacrarum. quas. ita. ſciebat. ut. quoties. ad. colloquium. deſcenderet. regnare. iſtis. videretur. Guſtrovi. ad. d. xxiii. Novembris. anno Chriſti. CIↃIↃCLVII. ætatis ſuæ. lii. languorem. nactus. incredibili. ſui. deſiderio. omnibus. bonis. principi. maxime. relicto. deceſſit. hoc. marmore. ejuſdem. pietate. clauſus.

The author of the two laſt inſcriptions, as I mentioned to you before, was duke Guſtavus Adolphus, in whom ended the line of Mecklenburg Guſtrow. He was reckoned one of the moſt learned princes of the age, yet had the misfortune of being infected with the ſuperſtition of the times, in giving credit to witchcraft. This appears from a letter in that prince's own hand-writing, to paſtor Schukmannus, which was ſhewn me by a gentleman of this country, and of which I took the following copy:

Reverende domine Schukmanne,

1. *In timore Domini ex te quæro, annon vetitum ſit uti illa re, quæ ope dæmonis per malas artes fuerit inventa, ut ſi aliquis theſaurum, vel alias res eo modo invenerit, an alter ad quem res iſtæ pervenerunt, quando reſcivit ita eſſe inventas, ut ſupra dixi, illis uti poſſit?*

2. An putas naturale hoc eſſe, ut ea terra, in qua argentum, vel vaſa ex argento ſunt defoſſa, non ſit capax roris, ita ut ſi alibi ros ceciderit, ibi tamen non inveniatur?

Quæ ea de re ſenties, ſcripto comprehenſa, per latorem harum mihi quam primum mittas. Vale in Domino, et crede me tibi addictiſſimum.

Guſtavus Adolphus, dux Meclenburgenſis.

Dum hæc conſigno, oritur adhuc illud, an Filius Dei ſecundum humanam quoque naturam donet fidelibus ſpiritum ſanctum; quod ut una reſolvas, peto: Ego exiſtimo analogiæ fidei non convenire.

But to return to the great church of Guſtrow, I muſt mention to you that it is alſo adorned with a number of paintings. In the gallery or women's choir, which was built in 1706, there are ten ſcripture pieces, with German verſes under them. 1. Abraham ſacrificing his ſon Iſaac. 2. Eſau ſelling his right of primogeniture. 3. Jacob wreſtling with an angel. 4. Moſes pulling off his ſhoes. 5. Aaron's ſons conſumed by fire. 6. David dancing before the ark. 7. Peter ſinking on the water. 8. Chriſt's transfiguration on mount Thabor. 9. Chriſt driving the traders out of the Temple. 10. The penitent woman at Chriſt's feet.

But two of the beſt pieces are the portraits of Martin Luther and Philip Melancthon, near the chancel. Underneath are the following lines:

Iſta

Iſte repurgator doctrinæ e ſorde papatus,
Talis in ingenua fronte Lutherus erat.
Corporis effigiem mediam manus æmula pinxit,
Se totum in ſcriptis pingitat ille ſuis.

Under Philip theſe:

Dum Sophiæ Deus & ſacræ dum conſulit arti,
Excitat ingenium, docte Philippe, tuum.
Quicquid habent artes & triplex lingua peritum
Debetur ſtudio, judicioque tuo.

And now I have given you a pretty full account of every thing remarkable in this church, it is time I think to releaſe both you and myſelf, from our gloomy confinement amidſt the pale nations of the dead. Yet I cannot conclude without imparting to you a few reflections, which I was naturally led into, by a ſituation ſo retired and awful. The grave is reckoned the School of Wiſdom; and the moſt inſtructive leſſons may be drawn from this pompous mimickry of ſculptured marble. In this retirement of ſerious contemplation, when every ruder paſſion was huſhed, I obſerved a number of princes paſſing in a compendious review before my eyes, who after flouriſhing a ſhort time in grandeur, terminated their career all alike in the common boundary of mortality. A review of this kind diſſipated the gay images of the flattering world, and filled

filled my mind with a juſt idea of the emptineſs of human glory. But the tomb of duke Guſtavus Adolphus gave a particular turn to my reverie. This prince, one of the moſt learned and moſt reſpectable perſonages in the German empire, had been joined in wedlock to a fruitful princeſs, who brought him eleven children; yet he had not the deſired happineſs of leaving any male iſſue behind him; ſo that his death put an end to the line of Mecklenburg Guſtrow. Such has been the fate of ſo many great houſes, that have figured on imperial and regal thrones, and at preſent ſubſiſt only by name, or are ſunk even into inglorious oblivion. And not to mention the ancient ſovereigns of the Aſſyrian, Babyloniſh, Macedonian, or Roman monarchies, whoſe families together with their empire are utterly extinct; what ſhall we ſay even in regard to modern kingdoms, where different lines of princes have ſucceeded each other, demonſtrating the uncertainty of all human expectations? Has not France been governed by princes of different races, thoſe of Pharamond, Charlemain, and Hugh Capet? Has not Denmark undergone the like changes, from the old heathen kings to the preſent houſe of Oldenburg? And to come nearer home, what ſucceſſion of lineages have ſwayed the Britiſh ſceptre, ſince the old Saxon line to the preſent illuſtrious houſe on the throne? Where are

the

the Plantagenets, who ſtruck ſuch a terror into Gaul, and planted the Engliſh banners on the ramparts of Paris? Though at one time there were fifty princes of that illuſtrious houſe, they are now no more, their line is extinct, their glory and ſplendor vaniſhed. If this be the fate of ſovereign houſes, can their ſubjects lay claim to greater ſtability? Families, like all other human eſtabliſhments, are perpetually fluctuating, and from their very nature and internal frame, as conſiſting of mortals, are ſubject to diſſolution. How few noble houſes are there in Europe, that can trace their antiquity with any certainty, above ſix or ſeven centuries? And is this ſhort duration, a ſufficient title to look down with contempt upon thoſe, who are of the ſame maſs of blood as themſelves, and will be blended with them in the ſame undiſtinguiſhed duſt? What then are we to think of perſons ennobled but the other day, who make ſuch a ſtir about ſuperiority and precedence, and ſeem to place their whole felicity in the homage of the vulgar? Why all this buſtle, and purſuit of pageantry and title? Why ſuch anxiety about purchaſing a little poſthumous renown, when a few years, or at leaſt a few centuries, will reduce us all to a ſtate of equal obſcurity?

Quid brevi fortes jaculamur ævo
Multa?

Why do we aim with eager ſtrife
At things beyond the mark of life?
Creatures alas! whoſe boaſted power
Is but the bleſſing of an hour!
He who can taſte, without allay,
The preſent pleaſures of the day,
Should with an eaſy chearful ſmile,
The bitterneſs of life beguile. *

I believe you will agree with me in this ſyſtem of philoſophy; however, I will not dwell any longer on the ſubject, leſt I ſhould infect you with the ſame melancholy as myſelf, tho' I muſt own it is a pleaſing melancholy. In my next I hope to be more chearful; but in whatever mood I happen to be, I am always

Dear Sir, yours, &c.

* Francis's Horace, book II. od. 16.

LET-

LETTER IX.

Guſtrow, September 30, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

IN my laſt I fell inſenſibly into meditations on tomb-ſtones; I ſhall now endeavour to brighten the ſcene, by returning to the noiſe of worldly affairs, and introducing you among the agreeable acquaintance which I have had the happineſs of making, ſince my ſhort ſtay in this pleaſant city.

The very evening of my arrival I found captain Kettemburg at the inn, who expected my coming, having been apprized of my departure from Roſtock, by profeſſor Æpinus. Captain Kettemburg is the young Hanoverian officer, whom I mentioned to you in one of my letters from that city. He was accompanied by M. de Boye, a native of this country, and an aſſeſſor in the courts of judicature. This gentleman ſpeaks very good Engliſh, having been three years in England, where he acted as agent for the German contractors

contractors for forage; and I believe he had been a contractor himſelf in the laſt war. He is a middle-ſized man, fair complexion, and a moſt chearful diſpoſition. The captain had ordered ſupper at his lodging, which was in the neighbourhood; and would admit of no excuſe or refuſal, looking upon me as his gueſt, while I ſtaid in Guſtrow. I was obliged to ſubmit to military laws, but had no reaſon in the end to complain of ill uſage, being introduced to very good quarters. Both the gentlemen behaved with great politeneſs and eaſe, and the evening was agreeably ſpent in convivial harmony. The captain offered to be my guide while I ſtaid at Guſtrow, and to introduce me to his couſin madam de Grabow, who, as I mentioned to you before, had been governante to her majeſty. I could not avoid expreſſing my acknowledgments for his civility, which I readily accepted.

Early the next morning I waited on doctor Hagedorn, with a letter from profeſſor Æpinus. The doctor received me with that civility which diſtinguiſhes the Germans beyond any nation in Europe. He is a well-made, good-looking gentleman, of a dark complexion, and between fifty and ſixty years of age. He is not a native of Mecklenburg, but of Mulhauſen, a city in Thuringia; however, he has reſided here many years with great reputation as a phyſician, and has the principal practice in the whole

whole town. His wife is an agreeable lady, ſomewhat ſtricken in years, but remarkably chearful and complaiſant. They have two ſons and one daughter, all grown up to maturity. Both his ſons are lawyers, which is the moſt lucrative profeſſion in Guſtrow. His eldeſt ſon was abſent upon ſome buſineſs, but I ſaw the youngeſt, who is a complaiſant gentleman. The doctor aſked me a number of queſtions concerning his ſiſter in London, miſs Hagedorn, which I anſwered to his ſatisfaction. He ſeems to have a very great affection for this lady, ſo that he would almoſt venture a journey to London, to pay her a viſit; but he is afraid of the ſea. I find that he is intimately acquainted with madam de Grabow, to whom he is phyſician in ordinary. After we had drunk coffee, he inſiſted upon my dining with him, and in the mean time propoſed to amuſe me with the ſight of the caſtle, and the dome or cathedral of Guſtrow.

The caſtle of Guſtrow ſtands near the town-wall, having a fine proſpect of the country. It was erected by duke Ulric IV. after the old palace, built by Henry Burevinus II. had been burnt down to the ground in 1586. Before it is a ſpacious area, which affords a complete view of this elegant ſtructure. The architecture is in taſte, and not overloaded with ornaments. The building is quadrangular, and very lofty. The apart-

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ments are well laid out, the ſtables and other offices convenient, and the whole ſurrounded by an elegant garden. But it is pity this fine palace is naked, the furniture having been removed from hence to Schwerin and other places, upon the extinction of the line of Guſtrow, and the death of the dutcheſs dowager Magdalena Sibylla. In conſequence of this neglect, the palace is greatly out of repair, and will ſoon, if not prevented, run to decay. Yet there is ſtill a picture-room, with ſome good pieces of the Flemiſh ſchool; among the reſt, the Dutchman ſmoaking is greatly admired. The theatre is alſo in good order, and remarkable for the fine ſtucco ceiling, exhibiting a great variety of imagery of excellent workmanſhip. After we had viewed the palace, we proceeded to the Dome, of which I have already given you a deſcription. Indeed I have not paſſed a day ſince my arrival in Guſtrow, without viſiting this ſtorehouſe of curioſities. Dinner time drawing near, we returned to the doctor's, where I had a genteel entertainment, and a hearty welcome, which greatly added to the pleaſure of the repaſt.

After dinner, captain Kettemburg made his appearance, and told me he was come to introduce me to his couſin madam de Grabow, whom he had apprized of our intended viſit. I was very deſirous to ſee this lady, of whom I had heard a great many fine things, particularly

of

of her intellectual accompliſhments. The doctor offered to be of the party, and we went in a body to make her a viſit. She has a very handſome houſe, which has coſt her a great deal of money; and ſhe is ſtill employed in beautifying it to her mind. We were introduced into a very elegant room, extremely well furniſhed, where we had been but a few moments, when the lady appeared, and by her eaſy addreſs and polite reception, immediately ſhewed herſelf a perſon of ſuperior accompliſhments.

Madam de Grabow is turned of ſixty, rather low in ſtature, round faced, black piercing eyes, and a little pitted with the ſmall-pox. Notwithſtanding her age, ſhe is hearty and ſtrong, and does not appear to be much above forty: her phyſiognomy is remarkably lively and ſenſible; her mien engaging, and in every reſpect her air beſpeaks her the woman of quality. She is chearful and eaſy in her converſation, and has a great fluency of ſpeech. Her maiden name is Kettemburg, being the daughter of a nobleman of that name, who was preſident of the high court of Guſtrow, and miniſter from his ſerene highneſs the duke of Mecklenburg to the court of Vienna. He took his daughter with him to that capital, where ſhe learnt the manners of the court, ſpent a great part of her youth, and acquired every elegant accompliſhment. She ſpeaks Italian

and French with eaſe, is a critic in her own tongue, and has written ſome pieces in verſe, by which ſhe has gained the title of the Sappho of Germany. After her return from Vienna, ſhe was married to M. de Grabow, a very rich man, and aſſeſſor of the high court of Guſtrow, who died, and left her a handſome fortune. The court of Strelitz pitched upon her as the moſt proper perſon to be governante to the young princeſſes; an employ in which ſhe acquitted herſelf with honour. Her greateſt pride is the having formed the mind of our gracious queen, whom ſhe mentions always in terms of affection mixed with the profoundeſt reſpect. At length, finding herſelf advanced in years, ſhe thought proper to retire to Guſtrow, where ſhe ſtill lives in ſplendor, beloved and eſteemed by all her acquaintance.

No ſooner had this lady ſat down, than ſweetmeats and wines of various ſorts were brought us, particularly ſome of the beſt Tokay I ever taſted. After the uſual ceremonies we fell into a very free chit-chat, as if we had known one another many years. I found that ſhe liked to talk about the affairs of England, with which ſhe is well acquainted. A great deal of the converſation turned upon the queen; and ſhe ſeemed to regret very much that ſhe had not been ſent for to attend her majeſty to Stade, inſtead of madam Cocceius. After coffee ſhe was pleaſed to ſhew me her library, which

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is well furniſhed with books in various branches of literature, in the German, French, and Italian languages. She is very much concerned that ſhe does not underſtand Engliſh; but having a high idea of our beſt writers, ſhe reads them tranſlated into the German tongue. Particularly ſhe paid me a compliment of her great deſire of reading my Vandalia in the original. However, old as ſhe is, ſhe ſaid ſhe would endeavour to learn Engliſh; and I thought it but due complaiſance to offer her a copy, which ſhe accepted. At length we took our leave of the good lady, who invited us to dine with her the day following. At the door I parted with doctor Hagedorn, and went and ſupped with captain Kettemburg, where I found M. de Boye, and baron Malzahn, a very agreeable young nobleman. They played at cards, which I am not fond of, but eſpecially when they play deep, a practice too prevalent in this country.

Before I was up the next day, I had a viſit from young M. Hagedorn, deſiring me to breakfaſt with his father. As ſoon as I roſe, I ſent a note to compliment madam de Grabow with a copy of my Vandalia; and another for his ſerene highneſs the duke of Strelitz. I then attended M. Hagedorn to his father's, where, juſt as we had done breakfaſt, I received

the following letter in French, written in a very good hand, from madam de Grabow:

Monſieur,

SI mon age et maintes diſtractions qui l'environnent dans ma ſituation preſente, encore pourroit me faire eſperer de reuſſir pour l'apprentiſſage de la langue Angloiſe, il eſt certain, que votre hiſtoire de la Ser^me. maiſon de Mecklenbourg, dont il vous plait de m'honorer en preſent pour le premier volume, m'y porteroit avec toute diligente, ne pouvant me douter de ſon excellente reuſſite.

Toute fois Je recois cette marque de vos politeſſes, et cet ornement de ma petite prœviſion de livres, avec la plus vive et parfaite reconnoiſſance, qui me renouvellera ſi bien le ſouvenir et la ſatisfaction, que me fit hier la viſite de ſon celebre auteur. Que ne dois Je me pouvoir promettre l'avantage d'avoir le moien un jour, pour vous faire quelque plaiſir a mon tour!

J'admire encore la beauté exterieure du volume deſtiné pour S. A. le duc de Strelitz, vous remerciant beaucoup pour me l'avoir fait voir. Je vous le retourne ci joint, et eſperant encore l'honneur de vous voir aujourd'hui, J'ai celui de me dire,

Monſieur,

A Guſtrow, le 25, de Septr. 1766.

Votre tres humble ſervante,
De Grabow, née de Kettemburg.

After breakfaſt I went to make my obſervations at the Dome, where I ſpent the forenoon. By dinner-time madam de Grabow's ſervant gave

gave me notice that my company was expected. I obeyed orders, and found captain Kettemburg, doctor Hagedorn, and his ſon, with M. de Boye, of the party. The good lady, before ſhe ſat down, returned me many thanks for my preſent of Vandalia, and aſſured me ſhe would endeavour to learn Engliſh, in order to be able to peruſe it. She then deſired me to accept of a piece of her compoſing, which was a moſt elegant map of the world; the names of places are in Latin, the lines inimitably well drawn, when ſhe was only, as ſhe aſſured me, ſixteen years of age. Her name is at the bottom in her own hand-writing: *Friderica Eliſabeth von der Kettemburg, Strelitz, 23 Septemb. An.* 1723; from whence you ſee I had reaſon to conclude that the lady is turned of ſixty. I returned her my moſt humble thanks, as you may well imagine, for ſo agreeable a preſent, which I promiſed always to preſerve as a token of the great honour done me by a lady of her rank and merit.

As ſoon as compliments were over, we ſat down to dinner, where we had every thing in great delicacy and elegance. The wines were exquiſite, and the agreeable converſation of the lady and her couſin the captain, gave a new reliſh to every thing we taſted. The Germans ſit a great while at dinner, as I mentioned to you before, during which time the glaſs goes briſkly round, even at the moſt ſober tables. Madam de Grabow drinks very mode-

rately herſelf, but loves to ſee her gueſts merry. It is not the cuſtom to drink healths at preſent, at polite tables; yet ſhe would break through the rule, and drank ſeveral Britiſh and Mecklenburg toaſts, which ſhe knew to be agreeable to the company. After coffee was over we fell into a very ſerious topic of converſation, namely, the ſervile condition of the peaſants of this country; for in Mecklenburg, as well as in moſt parts of Germany and Denmark, the boors are in ſome meaſure ſlaves, or belonging to the ſoil, as much as the cattle that feed upon it. Hence it is, that if you buy an eſtate in this country, you purchaſe the peaſants belonging to it, who are not intitled to quit their dwellings, without the conſent of the lord of the manor. This is what the Latins called *Aſcripti glebæ*, and ſuch ſervitude formerly ſubſiſted under the Roman emperors.

Captain Kettemburg expatiated with great warmth on the propriety of villanage, in preference to the liberty of the peaſants. His main argument was, that as this claſs of people are the property of the lords of the manor, it is the intereſt of their owners to uſe them with humanity, and take all poſſible care of their health and ſuſtenance; that accordingly, in Mecklenburg, they are provided with all neceſſaries by their maſters, both in health and in ſickneſs, much better than if they were left to their own direction: and if ſervitude

be attended with ſome inconveniences, theſe are counterbalanced by the advantages accruing from it; that the care which the lords of the different manors take to maintain their peaſants, prevents a multitude of crimes, which the lower claſs of people in other countries are apt to commit through neceſſity and want. Hence he conſidered it rather as a misfortune than an advantage to thoſe countries, to have aboliſhed the cuſtom of ſervitude or villanage, ſince it has been obſerved that public executions are moſt frequent, where the common people are moſt indulged: that thoſe who are poſſeſſed of nothing more than their life and liberty, are frequently impelled by indigence to commit the greateſt enormities: that liberty without property does not always lead to virtue: that mankind are not ſo formed in general as to make a good uſe of liberty in indigent circumſtances; neither are they capable, through want of education, of conducting themſelves properly, when left to their own will and pleaſure, but ſeem to ſtand in need of the coercion of wiſer heads, to prevent them from breaking into irregularities and exceſſes: that the bulk of the common people are little better than ſavage beaſts, whoſe ferocity is ever to be dreaded, unleſs they are fettered and confined, when they growl and bite the chain, which prevents their flying on the paſſenger.

When the captain had finiſhed, M. de Boyé, who had lived ſome time in England, ſtood up in the cauſe of liberty, and refuted the captain's ſpecious reaſoning, by a fair and candid expoſition of nature's rights, from which no perſon, how mean or poor ſoever, ought to be excluded. In ſhort, he pleaded the cauſe of freedom with great force and eloquence; and turning towards me, made uſe of ſome paſſages to his purpoſe out of our Engliſh poets:

Erect from nature's hand, by tyrant force,
And ſtill more tyrant cuſtom, unſubdu'd;
Man knows no maſter, but creating heav'n,
Or ſuch as choice and common good ordains.

The love of liberty with life is giv'n,
And life itſelf th' inferior gift of heav'n.

Then with raptures he concluded,

O give me liberty!
For were ev'n paradiſe itſelf my priſon,
Still I ſhould long to leap the cryſtal walls.

At length the diſpute was decided by madam de Grabow in favour of liberty, and the whole company acquieſced in her deciſion. The conteſt was carried on with great good-humour; and as it grew late in the evening, we took our leave

leave of the good lady, and retired to our reſpective quarters.

The next day I breakfaſted with captain Kettemburg, who attended me in my morning perambulations, and introduced me to ſeveral gentlemen of Guſtrow. I could not dine with him, being engaged at Dr. Hagedorn's, where I met with a very genteel reception. After dinner, counſellor Hagedorn propoſed taking me with him in his chaiſe to a houſe of entertainment four miles out of town, known by the name of the Vineyard, and reſorted to by all the genteel company in Guſtrow. The environs of Guſtrow are exceeding fine, and the ſoil ſeems to be extremely rich. We drove through a level country, with riſing hills and lakes on our right, which formed an agreeable appearance. Upon our approach to the Vineyard, the proſpect improved, and diſcloſed one of the moſt pictureſque ſcenes I ever beheld. The above houſe ſtands at the foot of a ſteep hill, which is all planted with vines. From the brow of the hill, I had a full view of a delightful country, variegated with lawn and foreſt. Near the houſe is a beautiful lake, in the midſt of which is a fine iſland, enriched with every improvement. But what is very extraordinary, though they have ſo many fine lakes in Mecklenburg, I ſcarce ever ſaw any boats on the water, except in the neighbourhood of

Schwerin,

Schwerin. We left our chaiſe on the top of the hill, and deſcended gently to the public-houſe, where we found a good deal of company of both ſexes. Among the reſt was doctor Goldſmith, an eminent civilian, with his wife, who is reckoned the handſomeſt lady in Guſtrow. Some of the gentlemen were drinking and ſmoaking their pipes, while others were playing at nine-pins with the ladies. This was a ſight quite new to me; and I own it gave me a great deal of pleaſure to ſee the fair ſex playing at this manly game. None could exceed the pretty Mrs. Goldſmith, who ſurpaſſes the reſt in dexterity, as much as ſhe excels them in beauty. The ladies in general were very chearful and complaiſant, and moſt of them ſpoke very good French. Night approaching, we returned in a body to town, and I ſpent the evening at doctor Hagedorn's.

The next morning I ſet out with captain Kettemburg, to ſee the town of Schwan, where I was told there are ſome remains of the ancient city of Werle, which formerly gave name to a branch of the houſe of Mecklenburg. The diſtance from Guſtrow is only about ſeven miles. The name of Schwan is Venedic or Sclavonic, and ſignifies *holy*; the old heathen goddeſs Siwa having been worſhipped in this neighbourhood, in the

the midſt of woods and and moraſſes. The town is agreeably ſituated on the Warnow, and was founded by Nicholas V. prince of Werle, in the year 1235, out of the ruins of the old city of Werle, which ſtood near the junction of the Nebel and the Warnow. The town is but indifferently built, and remarkable only for a ducal palace, begun by duke Ulric IV. and finiſhed by duke Charles I. The neighbouring country affords good clay for bricks, which are tranſported on the Warnow to Roſtock, where the brick-kilns have failed for want of wood. The inhabitants of Schwan are alſo ſaid to brew very good beer, for which there is a conſiderable demand in the neighbourhood. After we had dined at a public-houſe, where we met with pretty good accommodation, we went to take a ſurvey of the village called Wieck, where properly ſtood the town of Werle. Here the idol of the goddeſs Siwa is ſaid to have been worſhipped by the ancient Venedi. If ſo, there muſt have been two idols of this deity, ſince moſt writers ſuppoſe her to have been the favourite goddeſs of the Polabi; and that her idol ſtood on the very ſpot on which Henry the Lion, duke of Saxony and Bavaria, built the cathedral of Ratzeburg. We could find no veſtiges of any temple or place of worſhip, but only ſome rubbiſh, which ſeem to be the ruins of old houſes. The learned Bangertus has given us a

figure

figure of this goddeſs from ancient writers: her form is extremely elegant; ſhe ſtands naked on a column, with a garland on her head, and both her hands behind her back, holding in one a bunch of grapes, in the other a golden apple. Her hair is diſhevelled, and falls down to her hams. Some authors apprehend this Siwa to have been the Venus of the Polabi, while others affirm it to have been the figure of the famous Symbulla, wife of Anthyrius I. king of the Vandals; for it was cuſtomary with the Germans to pay a kind of adoration, not only to their deceaſed heroes, but alſo to their heroines, or ſuch of the fair ſex as had diſtinguiſhed themſelves by any memorable action. Tacitus mentions, that they looked upon ſome ſort of women as propheteſſes, and conſequently held them in great veneration, ſhewing a blind attachment to their pretended oracles. They never would undertake any thing of importance without conſulting them, and would even decline engaging an enemy, notwithſtanding the greateſt appearance of advantage, if they did not meet with the approbation of thoſe women. The Romans called them *Mulieres fatidicæ*; and the above hiſtorian takes notice of Aurinia, and ſeveral others; but eſpecially of Velleda, who lived in the time of Veſpaſian, and is reported to have foretold very ſtrange events. Suetonius alſo relates that Vitellius uſed to conſult Catta, a German propheteſs,

phetess, and pay an implicit assent to her predictions. After we had fully indulged our curiosity, and amused one another with a variety of conjectures and remarks on the idolatrous worship of the Venedi, we returned pretty late to Gustrow, where we spent the evening very agreeably with M. de Boye, and other gentlemen at Prince Lobkowitz's, the nick-name given to my landlord.

My next excursion was to a farm-house, whither I was invited by an old gentleman, who rented the farm of his serene highness the duke of Mecklenburg. I had made acquaintance with him at the inn where I lodged, and being willing to see every thing, *mores hominum multorum*, I accepted of the invitation. We set out after dinner on foot for Bulow, which is the name of the farm, and distant only three miles from Gustrow. The road is very good, through a pleasant country, which may properly be called the garden of Mecklenburg. About half-way we came to a delightful public-house, called the Brunn, or the Fountain, from a fine spring in the neighbourhood, whose waters are esteemed in that country for their salubrious qualities. But the place is more frequented for the sake of the good wines with which the landlord is provided, and the pleasant garden, situated near a lake, and diversified with fine walks and alleys. The house is small, but well built,

built, and has ſome handſome apartments. In ſhort, this is the Vauxhall of the citizens of Guſtrow, and the beſt place of rural entertainment I have yet ſeen in this part of Germany. Here we ſtaid an hour to refreſh ourſelves with a glaſs of good wine, upon the ſtrength of which we proceeded in our journey, and after aſcending a pleaſant hill we reached Bulow, a little before ſun-ſet. The farm-houſe is very large, and ſtands all alone in a moſt fruitful valley. Cloſe to the houſe there is a great number of barns, this being a conſiderable farm, which the duke lets at a thouſand dollars a year. As we approached, a very decent perſon, who had the appearance of a gentleman, came forth to meet us; and I found out afterwards, that he is tutor to the farmer's ſons. At the door, his wife, a prudent woman, who makes her children and her houſe her care, waited for her huſband's return, and received him with a chearful countenance and kind embrace. Entering the houſe, I ſaw a ſpacious place like a barn, where cows, ſheep, ſwine, and other animals, are aſſembled together, and make a very romantic appearance. On the right and left of this great barn, are chambers for the accommodation of the farmer and his family. We entered a pretty large room on the left, where I ſaw the farmer's numerous progeny. The wife is a decent good look-

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ing woman, and mother of ten children, three girls and ſeven boys, all living. The farmer acquainted her with his having invited me to be his gueſt that night, and ſhe gave me a chearful welcome. The children looked well and hearty, and even behaved with ſome degree of politeneſs. It was now their ſupper-time, and the good woman produced whatever ſhe had beſt in her ſtore. There was plenty of cold victuals, and boiled chicken and ham. The bread and butter were both very good, and we had a bottle of tolerable old hock. The eldeſt ſon ſaid grace, which was pretty long; and it is amazing with what devotion the whole family attended to this ceremony. The good miſtreſs filled up the glaſs to her lord, after loading the table with domeſtic plenty. Here I might truly ſay with your favourite poet:

Non me Lucrina juverint conchylia,
Magiſve rhombus aut ſcari,
Si quos Eois intonata fluctibus
Hiems ad hoc vertat mare;
Non Afra avis deſcendat in ventrem meum,
Non attagen Jonius jucundior.

In the courſe of converſation, I found the farmer very chearful, and apparently every circumſtance ſeemed to ſpeak his happineſs. Still there was ſomething wanting, namely,

a new

a new houſe, his preſent habitation being of the antique order. He had applied ſeveral times, as he told me, to the duke, for permiſſion to erect a new building, and offered to lay out the money himſelf, if it would be allowed him in his rent. But his application has hitherto proved fruitleſs. Thus in every ſtation of life, there is always ſome deficiency or other, to convince us that there is no ſuch thing as complete happineſs on this ſide of the grave. With regard to the duke's refuſing to build a new farm-houſe, it is probably owing to the horrid depredations of the Pruſſians in the late war, which impoveriſhed the country to a very great degree, but fell chiefly on the duke, the beſt part of whoſe revenue ariſes from his demeſnes. The contributions raiſed by thoſe ravagers on this ſingle farm amounted to 4000 crowns; but the duke, out of his great humanity, indemnified the farmer. The chit-chat of the evening being over, we went to bed at a very early hour, between eight and nine o'clock. I had a clean room, a good bed, and ſlept as well as if I had lain in the moſt ſumptuous palace. Early the next morning, as ſoon as the faithful herald of the day, the village cock, began to crow aloud with trumpet ſhrill, I roſe out of bed, and found all the family in motion. The good old farmer and his wife were preparing breakfaſt; ſome of the maids were employed in milking, and others

in churning, the ploughmen were going out with their teams, the bleating flocks were biting the dewy ground, and the lowing herds grazed the woodland dales. I own I was never more affected with a country ſcene in my life, and could not help repeating to myſelf the following lines:

Happy the man, whom bounteous Gods allow
With his own hand paternal grounds to plough:
Like the firſt golden mortals, happy he,
From buſineſs, and the cares of money, free!
No human ſtorms at land break off his ſleep,
No loud alarms of nature on the deep:
From all the cheats of law he lives ſecure,
Nor does th' affronts of palaces endure.
He ſees the lowing herds walk o'er the plain,
While neighb'ring hills low back to them again.
Sometimes beneath an ancient oak,
Or on the matted graſs he lies;
No god of ſleep he need invoke;
The ſtream that o'er the pebbles flies,
With gentle ſlumber crowns his eyes.
Amidſt his harmleſs eaſy joys,
No anxious cares invade his health,
Nor love his peace of mind deſtroys,
Nor wicked avarice of wealth.
Oh let me in the country range,
'Tis there we breathe, 'tis there we live.

After I had amuſed myſelf ſome time with this reverie, I was called in to breakfaſt, and both coffee and tea were ſerved upon the table. I liked my quarters ſo well that I could have ſtaid there much longer, had I not been engaged to dine with captain Kettemburg, and to ſup with counſellor Carnatz, brother-in-law to miſs Hagedorn. With difficulty I could get away from the good farmer; and both he and his tutor inſiſted upon accompanying me back as far as the Brün. There we parted, and I reached Guſtrow in good time, where captain Kettemburg and M. de Boye had been to inquire for me at my lodging. As we were to be a very large company, the captain ordered dinner at prince Lobkowitz's. While dinner was getting ready, I went and took leave of madam de Grabow, intending to ſet out the next day for New Brandenburgh. At dinner we were very merry; the company was captain Kettemburg, M. de Boye, captain Winter, doctor Goldſmith, M. Witte, and ſeveral others. The converſation turned chiefly on the conſtitution of England, and the advantages of liberty; but I found that the gentlemen of this country are all for confining this great bleſſing to themſelves, excluſive of the common people. One thing diſpleaſed me very much at table, that our landlord, prince Lobkowitz, ſat down with us in his greaſy night-gown; for this was a *table d'hote*, and the maſter,

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on ſuch occaſions, always eats with the company. I took notice of it to ſome of the gentlemen; and they only laughed, ſaying it was the old man's way, and that he would appear in the ſame dreſs, if the duke of Mecklenburg himſelf were to dine at his houſe. I had nothing then to reply, but I thought it very odd for gentlemen to indulge ſuch a cynic. After coffee we took a walk about the town; and I parted at length, with my good friends captain Kettemburg and M. de Boye.

My next ſtep was to wait on doctor Hagedorn, who had promiſed to conduct me to his brother-in-law's, counſellor Carnatz. I found the doctor and his lady waiting for me; and as the counſellor's houſe was not far diſtant, we went hither on foot. M. Carnatz is an elderly gentleman, and his lady not very young; yet ſhe appears almoſt in her bloom, and upon the whole is a moſt agreeable woman. She reſembles her ſiſter miſs Hagedorn pretty much, only that ſhe is of a fairer complexion. The counſellor and his lady received me with tranſports of joy, as if I had been an old acquaintance. They aſked a thouſand queſtions about their ſiſter, which I anſwered to the beſt of my abilities. Supper came upon the table at the uſual time, the entertainment was elegant, and the hoſpitable pair ſhewed every mark of being pleaſed with their gueſts. We parted in good time, and I went home with

doctor Hagedorn, where, after taking leave of him and his good family, to whom I am ſo much indebted for their civilities, I retired to my lodging. The papers and books I have procured in this country, are ſo cumberſome, that I have made a bale of them, and ſent them to the doctor, who will be ſo good as to forward them to Mr. Matthias at Hamburg. The weather ſtill continues remarkably fine, a great comfort to a traveller at this time of the year. I have got a companion to go with me as far as New Brandenburg, which is but a little way from Strelitz. He is a very polite gentleman, a merchant of Hamburg, and has ſome buſineſs to ſettle in that town. We do not travel in the poſt-waggon, but in this gentleman's chaiſe; ſo that we ſhall move at our leiſure. *Chi ben ſta non ſi move.* I do not apprehend this proverb to be true; for though I find myſelf well, and am pleaſed with my reception wherever I go, I am ſtill for moving. Man is defined by ſome writer, *animal inquietum & mobile.* Adieu; I propoſe to ſet out early to-morrow morning, and hope to write to you ſoon from Strelitz. Mean time I remain,

Dear Sir, yours, &c.

LETTER X.

New Brandenburgh, October 4, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

I Did not intend to trouble you any more till I arrived at Strelitz; but my ſhort ſtay in this city has been ſo agreeable to me, that I thought it would alſo furniſh ſufficient matter for your entertainment.

Early in the morning, the 1ſt inſtant, the Hamburg merchant and I ſet out from Guſtrow; and paſſing through a fine wood, the property of his ſerene highneſs, before eight o'clock we got to Vietegeſt, a village belonging to M. de Wencſteran, one German mile diſtant from Guſtrow. I believe I obſerved to you before, that the miles in Mecklenburg are exceſſively long, and one of them may be reckoned to make ſeven Engliſh. Some part of the road to this village was ſandy; as for the village itſelf, it afforded nothing re-

markable. From thence we continued our journey without ſtopping, till we arrived at Teterow, about eleven, where we changed horſes, and ſtaid to dine. Teterow is reckoned eight miles from Vietegeſt. The road is very good, the country level, and the ſoil fruitful. We ſet up at the poſt-houſe, where we ordered dinner: and while it was getting ready, we took a turn round the town.

Teterow is agreeably ſituated near a ſmall lake, and in the midſt of pleaſant meadows. The name is Venedic or Sclavonian; *tetteri*, in that language, ſignifying a quail, of which there is plenty in this neighbourhood. The town is but inconſiderable, and contains nothing remarkable. The poſt-maſter entertained us handſomely, and at one o'clock we proceeded on our journey. They dine very early in this country, generally at twelve, and very ſeldom later than one. A little before three we reached Malchin, diſtant about ſix miles from Teterow, where my companion ſtopped to ſpeak to a perſon about buſineſs; and in the mean time I went to view the town.

Malchin ſtands near a pleaſant lake, in the neighbourhood of Pomerania, at the influx of the river Peine into the lake of Cummerow. It was formerly a place of great ſtrength, being built on an eminence, and environed by moraſſes. But it was more famous for being the chief ſeat of a ſociety called *Fratres Kalendarum*, who

who had a houſe or monaſtery here, which now goes by the name of Wedenhoff. There is ſtill a gate of the town, and a ſtreet, named the *kalands ſtraſſe*, and the *kalands thor*. Theſe *Fratres Kalendarum* were ſo denominated from holding their aſſemblies on the firſt day of the month, in order to regulate the faſts, alms, and religious exerciſes, which they were to perform within that lunation. The time of this inſtitution cannot be aſcertained; but they are ſuppoſed to have made their firſt appearance in the 13th century. They differed from all other orders, in admitting clergy and laity, men and women, into their ſociety. As they made great entertainments the firſt day of the month, ſeveral irregularities and abuſes were committed at thoſe meetings, which were the cauſe of their being ſuppreſſed about the time of the Reformation. The town of Malchin ſuffered very much by the Thirty Years War, as alſo by a fire which happened here in 1663, and deſtroyed moſt of the buildings, except the pariſh-church and the town-houſe. Yet this place is ſtill remarkable for being the ſeat of the provincial diet of Mecklenburg, alternately with Sternberg. We ſtaid here little above an hour, when we reſumed our journey; and advancing ſix miles farther, at ſix in the evening we reached Stavenhagen. The road all the way is very good, but the country

is encumbered with ſand, and conſequently not ſo fruitful. Here we ſet up at the poſt-houſe, and reſolved to proceed no farther till the next morning. The landlord was very obliging and civil; we had a good ſupper and good beds, and enjoyed a comfortable night's reſt.

After breakfaſting early we went to take a view of the town. Stavenhagen is ſituated on the frontiers of Pomerania, and formerly belonged to the dukes of that country. It derives its name from a fiſh-pond in the neighbourhood, which in the Venedic or Sclavonic language is called *Staweni*. The town is ſmall, and but indifferently built, ſo as to afford nothing that could engage our curioſity. After an hour's perambulation our carriage was got ready, and by nine o'clock we ſet out for New Brandenburgh, diſtant from thence about twelve miles. The morning was very fine, but the weather began to grow cold. The country looked extremely pleaſant, riſing into hills, and interſperſed with ſmall lakes. By eleven o'clock we got to Buggow, a village half-way between Stavenhagen and New Brandenburgh, where we ſtopped to drink coffee. A little way from thence we entered the territories of his ſerene highneſs the duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz, the boundary of which was diſtinguiſhed by a pillar. On the right

we beheld a large foreſt, which extended along ſome riſing grounds. Towards one we had ſight of the Tollenſee lake, and the city of New Brandenburg. The ſpire of the great church is very lofty, and makes a good appearance. The town is ſituated in a valley, ſurrounded with high hills. We entered it by two o'clock, when I parted with my companion, who went to lodge at a friend's houſe, while I took up my quarters in the great market-place, at M. Toll's, the chief inn in the town. M. Toll is concerned in the wine trade, a man of ſubſtance and good manners, and alderman of New Brandenburgh. I had a letter for him from burgomaſter Schroder, at Roſtock; and he paid ſuch regard to it, as to give me the beſt room in his houſe, the room in which his ſerene highneſs the duke had lodged in his late viſit to baron Dewitz. Upon the whole, this inn is one of the beſt I have ſeen in any part of Germany. I ordered dinner for myſelf, though my companion would fain have perſuaded me to dine with him at his friend's; but intending only to make a ſhort ſtay in the town, I was deſirous to ſpend moſt of my time with M. Piſtorius, one of the moſt learned antiquarians in the dutchy of Mecklenburg. I had a letter of recommendation to that gentleman from my friend M. Schroder, to whom I am greatly indebted for introducing me to ſo valuable

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an acquaintance. As ſoon as I had dined, I inquired after M. Piſtorius, and M. Toll himſelf would ſhew me the way. Luckily I found him at home; he had heard of my intended viſit, from ſomebody at Guſtrow, and expreſſed the higheſt pleaſure in ſeeing me.

M. Piſtorius is ſyndic of the province of Stargard, a place of great honour and profit in this country. He is very tall, of a thin habit of body, and a ruddy complexion. Though near ſixty years of age, he is as ſtrong and robuſt as a man of forty; which is owing to his temperance and exerciſe: he ſeldom drinks any wine, his uſual liquor being water, except when he happens to be in company; and even then he drinks very ſparingly. He goes into the cold-bath every day in the year, winter and ſummer, and his bath is in his own garden. In his manner and carriage he is free and affable, without any ſort of affectation. No man is reckoned to know more of the antiquities of his country, and none to take a greater delight in communicating what he knows. He is deſcended from the celebrated Simon Piſtorius, a learned civilian of Saxony, who diſtinguiſhed himſelf greatly in the beginning of the 16th century, by his zeal in promoting the Reformation, by his extenſive erudition, and by his profound knowledge in the art of government. Learning has ever ſince been hereditary

ditary in the family; and the preſent ſyndic does not yield the palm to any of his anceſtors. He is now writing the hiſtory of the noble families of Mecklenburg, and propoſes very ſoon to publiſh the firſt volume. This is a work of great reſearch; it is a complete baronage, embelliſhed with more hiſtorical anecdotes than one generally meets with in works of that nature.

After the uſual ceremonies were over, the learned ſyndic ordered wine and coffee, and kindly inſiſted I ſhould be his gueſt, while I ſtaid in New Brandenburg. He had heard of my hiſtory of Vandalia, and was ſorry he did not underſtand Engliſh, that he might have the pleaſure of reading it in the original. He had laboured, he ſaid, in the ſame field himſelf, and ſhould be glad to communicate to me any thing worth my notice. In the courſe of our converſation, I found him perfectly well verſed in the hiſtory of his country. Some hints he gave me, which will be of uſe to my ſecond volume of Vandalia: but it will be time enough to mention them, when that volume is publiſhed. He complained, however, that he had not found the nobility of Mecklenburg in general, ſo ready as he could have wiſhed to communicate ſuch papers as related to the antiquity or tranſactions of their families. I own I was aſtoniſhed to hear it, and could not help feeling

feeling ſome indignation at the behaviour of thoſe noblemen, who are inſenſible of the honour done them by learned and ingenious perſons, in labouring to reſcue the memorable actions of their anceſtors from oblivion. From hiſtory we fell to medals; and I found that the learned ſyndic has made a very choice collection of Roman and Greek coins, as well as thoſe belonging to Mecklenburg. I think it the beſt I have ſeen in this country, except that of M. Neumand, the town-clerk of Roſtock. Among others I was pleaſed with the famous bell medals of the duke of Brunſwick, which are held in ſuch value by the connoiſſeurs. Fortune has been favourable to our ſyndic, in making his reſearches; for not long ago, he bought a large earthen veſſel full of old coins, which had been found by a peaſant in digging at a place called Gloſter-Malchow. Moſt of them were ſtruck in this country, and in the dutchy of Pomerania. Among others there is a very ſcarce one of the town of Friedland, with the following legend: *Moneta Uredelandenſis civitatis Magnopolenſis, A. D.* 1440. M. Nieumand at Roſtock has one of theſe coins, for which he refuſed to take one hundred crowns; whereas M. Piſtorius purchaſed the whole collection at Malchow for thirty-five crowns. He had never a duplicate of this of Friedland, but he gave me a copy of it, and ſeveral duplicates of others.

others. I am particularly obliged to him for a ſmall ſilver coin of the town of Guſtrow, at the time of the princes of Werle; for another of the city of Roſtock in the fourteenth century; another of the town of Grypſwald in Pomerania; another of the city of Stralſund, with the arrows for its arms; another of the town of Anclam, the legend, *Moneta Tanglimenſis*; the reverſe, *In homine tuo Deus*; it has the arrows, like the coins of Stralſund, and was ſtruck about 1440. He alſo favoured me with a copy of a fine medal on the peace of Breda; and with another of the princeſs Sophia; on the face of the latter the inſcription is: *Sophia, D. G. ex ſtirpe El. Pal. Elect. Vid. Br. & Lun. Mag. Britt. hæres*; on the reverſe is, *Nata xiii. Octob. MDCXXX. nupta xxx Sept. MDCLVIII. Ad ſucceſſionem Brit. nominata MDCCI. ſub veſperam viii. Junii. MDCXIV. in hortis Herenhauſanis adhuc vegeto & firmo paſſu deambulans ſubita et placida morte erepta.* He ſhewed me a very fine roſe-noble, which was ſtruck in the reign of Edward IV. the legend, *Jeſus autem tranſiens per medium illorum ibat.* Another curious medal was a zucka-ſicka, or ſilver coin of Kouli Khan, ſtruck in 1736; there is no image on it, but round it is an inſcription in Arabic letters, which is Engliſhed thus: "Nadir Shah gives new ſplendor to the ſun and moon;" on the reverſe, "Coined at Morgithabad, in the firſt year of his happy acceſſion to the throne."

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M. Piſtorius offered to make me a preſent of this or any other medal in his poſſeſſion; but I would by no means rob him of his treaſure; with difficulty did I accept of the few duplicates abovementioned, and a ſilver medal of his celebrated anceſtor Simon Piſtorius, which I ſhall ever preſerve out of reſpect to the memory of that very learned man. We ſpent the greateſt part of the evening in ſurveying the medals, and diſcourſing on the hiſtory of Mecklenburg; and after a cold collation, and a glaſs of wine I returned to my quarters.

The next morning my learned friend, for ſo I muſt now call him, ſent to inquire after my health, and to invite me to dine with him. I accepted of his offer, eſpecially as he propoſed to ſpend the day in ſhewing me the town and its environs.

New Brandenburg is the capital of the circle of Stargard; and indeed the largeſt and handſomeſt town in the duke of Strelitz's dominions. It was built by Herbord von Raven, in 1248, under John I. margrave of Brandenburg, and for ſome time owed ſubjection to that electorate. This Herbord lived in the neighbourhood, at an ancient caſtle, the ruins of which are ſtill to be ſeen at a place called Ravenſburg. As he had travelled into Italy, and acquired a taſte for architecture, the margrave of Brandenburg gave him leave to build a new

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town on the frontiers of Pomerania, and to make it the ſecond in his electorate. Herbord choſe this ſituation, which is extremely pleaſant, upon a little river that diſcharges itſelf juſt by into the lake of Tollenſee. It is built in a circular form, with nine ſpacious ſtreets, five extending in a direct line from eaſt to weſt, and four alſo in a direct line from ſouth to north. The houſes are neat and handſome, and the ſtreets remarkably clean. The town has often ſuffered by fire, and eſpecially by that in 1737; but it has ſince riſen more beautiful out of its aſhes. Herbord of Raven built a handſome houſe for himſelf in Friedland-ſtreet, which he afterwards converted into a church dedicated to St. Nicholas; and it is now become a kind of magazine or barn. There is an inſcription ſtill over it, which preſerves the founder's memory. *Orate pro Herbordo Raven conditore urbis.* The great church was built in the year 1298: it is a large Gothic pile, with a very high brick tower; the inſide is lightſome and airy, and adorned after the Lutheran cuſtom with a variety of images, but containing nothing remarkable. This church is dedicated to the virgin Mary. There is alſo a ſmaller church, dedicated to St. John Baptiſt, which formerly belonged to a Franciſcan convent. In the ſuburbs were erected three churches; St. Catharine's, by New Gate, which

is now in ruins; St. Gertrude's, near the gate of Stargard, which is ſhut up; and St. George's, near the gate of Treptow, where divine worſhip is regularly performed. The town-houſe is a handſome brick building, ſituated in the great market-place, not far from the principal church. There were formerly two fine palaces in this city, which had been conferred by the dukes of Mecklenburg on the counts of Furſtemberg, of the noble family of Dewitz. But the counts having ſided with the dukes of Pomerania, in a war between the two houſes, the dukes of Mecklenburg diſpoſſeſſed thoſe counts, and granted one of the palaces to the lords of Ihlenfield. Both the palaces are now gone to ruin, but the privileges and exemptions annexed to the lands, ſtill ſubſiſt in the preſent owners, who have built modern houſes on the ſpot. The city enjoys very great privileges, obtained at different times from its princes. It is the metropolis of the circle of Stargard, and preſides over ſeveral towns within its diſtrict. The magiſtrates have a power of enacting bye-laws, with civil and criminal juriſdiction. The inhabitants carry on a conſiderable trade in hops, with which the neighbourhood abounds. In this town is a public ſchool, which his ſerene highneſs has taken under his protection; and it is now in a flouriſhing condition. Here alſo is a

ſuperintendency or ſpiritual court for the whole circle. According to ſeveral writers, the ancient town of Rhethre ſtood not far from New Brandenburg, on the Tollenſee. The environs of this city are very pleaſant, eſpecially towards the Tollenſee, where you have agreeable walks, as well as round the ramparts. About a mile from hence is a farm or bailiwic belonging to the duke, ſeated on an eminence, near the Tollenſee, and known by the name of Broda; the road is on a precipice, but commands a fine view of the lake, and the adjoining hills.

When we had taken a view of the town and ſuburbs, the ſyndic and I ſat down together at his houſe, where every thing was prepared for our reception. After dinner, M. Piſtorius made me a preſent of ſome books relating to the hiſtory of Mecklenburg. I then went to pay a viſit to Mrs. Schroder, my friend the burgomaſter's lady. I had brought a letter with me from her huſband at Roſtock; and ſhe was overjoyed to ſee me. M. Schroder, the younger brother, happened to be there, which made it very agreeable, he being a moſt accompliſhed gentleman. They ſent for M. Piſtorius, and inſiſted upon our ſpending the evening together at their houſe. This enlivened the ſcene; for we had leſs talk of hiſtory and medals, and more of lighter matters.

I can ſometimes ſay with Swift, *Vive la bagatelle.* Mrs. Schroder is a very good-natured lady: I mentioned to her that I had contracted a weakneſs in my ancle, which rendered it painful for me to walk. I had been ſubject to the ſame complaint in London, and ſeized with it in the ſtreets, ſo as to be quite lame. But I never took any thing for this diſorder; for it always went away of itſelf. The lady deſired me to bathe my ancle with brandy going to bed, and ſhe was ſure, from repeated experience, that it would give me relief. Accordingly I followed her direction, and my infirmity ſoon vaniſhed. The evening was ſpent very agreeably, and about ten o'clock I retired to my quarters at M. Toll's.

As ſoon as I roſe the next morning, my landlord gave me notice that the deputies of the ſtates were to hold their aſſembly that day in the town-hall, and afterwards to dine together at his houſe: that they had heard of my being in town; and baron Warburg, the land-rath, or provincial counſellor, one of their principal officers, had deſired him to tell me they ſhould be glad of my company. Soon after a young gentleman came into my apartment, and repeated the invitation from the baron. This young gentleman's name is baron Langerman; ſon of a late general in the Pruſſian ſervice, and a near relation of baron Warburg.

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I returned him a great many thanks, and begged the favour of him to acquaint the baron and the other gentlemen, that I would do myſelf the honour to wait upon them. I breakfaſted with my friend the ſyndic, who told me he was to be pretty buſy that morning at the provincial aſſembly; that he had heard I was to dine with the deputies, and he would call in upon us after dinner; that if I would amuſe myſelf in the mean time in his ſtudy, I was welcome; or if I choſe to walk or ride out of town, his ſervant ſhould wait on me. I preferred the former, as I had a mind to look into ſome more papers relating to the hiſtory of this country.

As ſoon as dinner was ready I was introduced by M. Toll to baron Warburg in a room full of company. The baron is one of the principal noblemen in the dutchy of Mecklenburg Strelitz; he ſeems to be turned of fifty, tall in ſtature, very corpulent, with a large roſy face: he is pretty chearful, of a generous diſpoſition, and fond of his bottle; but he has a Stentorean voice, even louder than that of my good friend captain H. The gentlemen were all in their riding-dreſs, with boots and great coats edged with lace; for they are ſo fond of lace in this country, that the very tops of their boots are decorated with it. They all paid me a great deal of civility, complimented me upon my Hiſtory, and expreſſed a ſingular

ſatisfaction at ſeeing me in their country. The dinner was ſumptuous and elegant, every thing genteelly conducted, and the wines exquiſite. They called very often for Engliſh beer, which is held in high eſteem in this country, and for which they pay dear. Upon the whole, they drank freely, and convivial mirth ſhone in their countenances. After dinner ſome viſitors came in, and among the reſt two or three lawyers, whom I had ſeen in Guſtrow, and who were like to ſpoil our mirth by introducing their jejune talk of gravamina and appeals. One of them could tell twenty, another thirty, another forty, gravamina on the ſide of the burghers of the province. But juſt as they were growing ſerious, ſome ſtrolling muſicians appeared before the door, and ſtriking up a merry tune, inſpired the whole company with freſh joy. Theſe ſtrollers played exceeding well; I had the curioſity to go and ſpeak to them; and I found that they were Jewiſh performers juſt come from Strelitz. Their inſtruments were the violin, and cymbal.

This ſcene of feſtivity was carried on for ſome time, when M. Piſtorius came in, to drink coffee. He then propoſed to take a little walk out of town, as it was a very fine evening; and baron Langerman offered to be of the party. The baron is a moſt agreeable young

young nobleman, handſome in his perſon, a polite ſcholar, and of remarkable ſolidity and good ſenſe, which he has greatly improved by reading. He lives at preſent at Berlin, but talks of coming to ſettle in Mecklenburg, at the requeſt of his relation baron Warburg. He invited me to come and ſee him at Berlin, which is only thirteen German miles from Strelitz; but I am afraid I ſhall not have time to take ſuch a trip. We walked towards the Tollenſee; and it being a fine evening and clear weather, we had a full view of that beautiful river. The Tollenſee takes its riſe in the principality of Stargard, and dutchy of Mecklenburg, from a collection of different ſprings, and runs northward in many windings, ſome of which form lakes and iſlands, towards Treptow in Pomerania; and from thence to Demmin, where it mingles its waters with the Peine, which empties itſelf into the Baltic. The Tollenſi, a tribe of the Venedi, derived their name from this river or lake (for it is both) on whoſe banks they were ſettled. Night approaching, we returned to town, and ſupped at M. Toll's with baron Warburg and ſome of the deputies, for the greater part were returned to their reſpective homes. There was an old gentleman in company, colonel Keyſerling, upwards of eighty-five years, but hearty and merry as a man of forty. He had

been long in the Swediſh ſervice, where he behaved with great honour. Not above four or five years ago he broke his leg, but is now as well as ever; and the athletic veteran ſeems to bid defiance to infirmity and old age. In the courſe of converſation, I learnt that his ſerene highneſs is returned from Kolpin to Strelitz, along with baron Dewitz, and that he has juſt reviewed his troops, after changing the uniform from red to blue; ſo that they are now clad and diſciplined exactly like the Pruſſians. I think it is high time for me to ſet out for Strelitz; and as a Pruſſian officer, one captain Winkelman, intends to depart for that town to-morrow morning, and has offered me a place in his carriage, I intend to embrace the opportunity. I own I am very deſirous to ſee baron Dewitz; and the long intimacy I had with that worthy nobleman in London, encourages me to hope for a kind reception. As in all probability I ſhall make ſome ſtay at that court, I ſhall endeavour to give you a full account of it, which I know will be entertaining to you; and to contribute to your entertainment will be ever a ſingular pleaſure to

Dear Sir, yours, &c.

LETTER XI.

New Strelitz, October 16, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

BEHOLD me at length arrived at New Strelitz, the port I have had conſtantly in view, ſince my departure from England, and the object of my anxious expectation. Yet I have not been in a violent hurry to reach this wiſhed-for port, becauſe I intended it ſhould be a ſtation of repoſe, after the fatigues I was to undergo in traverſing ſuch a variety of towns and villages in the dukedom of Mecklenburg. As I knew I ſhould be detained in this capital, I was willing, while the fine weather laſted, to make the moſt of my time; and by what accounts I have hitherto tranſmitted to you, it will appear, I hope, that I have not been idle. I ſhall now acquaint you with what paſſed ſince my departure from New Brandenburg, and with the particulars of my reception at this princely reſidence.

The ſixth inſtant, I breakfaſted with M. Piſtorius, who promiſed to come and ſee me very ſoon at New Strelitz. By eleven, captain Winkelman's chaiſe came to the door, and we ſet out together in very good ſpirits. M. Piſtorius would walk with me to the town-gate, where we parted with great tenderneſs and friendſhip. The country, as we left New Brandenburg, had a very pleaſant appearance, riſing in gentle eminences; and on the right we had the Tollenſee, which we could trace with our eye to the diſtance of five or ſix miles. Between twelve and one we arrived at Nemerow, a delightful village, five miles from New Brandenburg, and ſituated near the Tollenſee. The walk down to the water-ſide is quite charming. This was once a commandery of the knights of Malta, belonging to the grand-maſterſhip of Sonneberg; but it was ſecularized, together with the commandery of Mirow, at the treaty of Weſtphalia, and aſſigned to the dukes of Mecklenburg, as an indemnification for the loſs of Wiſmar, ceded by the ſame treaty to the crown of Sweden. Proceeding on our journey we aſcended a ſteep hill, and entered a large foreſt belonging to the duke, in the middle of which is a public-houſe, reckoned halfway to Strelitz. Here the captain would ſtop for refreſhment; but the houſe afforded very indifferent accommodation. We made

what haſte we could to get away; and advancing through the wood, we ſaw a fine opening to the left, with a moſt extenſive proſpect. The road is very ſandy, ſo that we moved but ſlowly. Within four miles of Old Strelitz, we ſtopped at another public houſe to refreſh our horſes; and ſoon after had a full view of Strelitz, which ſtands in a ſpacious plain. We reached the town before duſk, and ſet up at the poſt-houſe, where we ordered dinner. There was no neceſſity for our going to Old Strelitz from New Brandenburg, as it is not the direct way; but my companion had ſome buſineſs in that city. After we had dined, he went to ſpeak to a friend, and I walked a little about the town. By ſeven o'clock we got into our carriage again; and at eight we reached New Strelitz. Here my companion and I parted: I was ſet down at burgomaſter Strubing's houſe to which I was recommended by M. Piſtorius; the captain went to a private lodging, and I never ſaw him afterwards. Burgomaſter Strubing is a merchant, yet keeps an inn; he is a man of a good behaviour, and underſtands his buſineſs very well. His houſe is reſorted chiefly by ſuch gentlemen as have any affairs to tranſact at court. He received me civilly, provided me with a good ſupper, and a handſome apartment. I was pleaſed to hear that baron Dewitz was at Strelitz,

and

and after indifferent chit-chat with my landlord, I went to bed.

As ſoon as I had breakfaſted I ſent a ſervant with a card to the baron, ſignifying my arrival; and that, if it were convenient, I intended doing myſelf the honour to wait upon him. This was about nine o'clock. The baron ſent for anſwer he ſhould be glad to ſee me; but, dreſſing occaſioning ſome delay, a ſervant ſoon after came to acquaint me, that baron Dewitz was obliged to wait upon his ſerene highneſs; that he ſhould be glad to ſee me at court between twelve and one; that the duke's coach would come and take me up; and that the marſhal of the court would be there ready to preſent me to their ſerene highneſſes. Accordingly the duke's coach took me up at the time appointed, and drove directly to the palace. Getting out of the coach I fell down, but, thank God! received no great harm. One of the officers conducted me to the marſhal's apartment, where I found him waiting for me: after the uſual compliments, he told me he had been juſt reading my Hiſtory, and was pleaſed to commend it. The marſhal does not ſpeak Engliſh, but underſtands it pretty well, and is converſant in moſt of our books of polite literature. His name is Zeſterfleth, and he is ſtricken in years, but a very fine gentleman. He told me that baron Dewitz had apprized

prized the duke and the princeſs of my coming, and, if I pleaſed, he would now introduce me. I could not avoid being greatly flattered with ſuch politeneſs, and anſwered him I was ready to pay my reſpects to their ſerene highneſſes.

We then aſcended a great ſtair-caſe, and paſſing through ſeveral apartments, where I ſaw and bowed to many ladies and gentlemen, I reached the antichamber; and was apprized, that their ſerene highneſſes were in the next apartment. I entered with the marſhal, and after paying my obeiſance, was received by their highneſſes in the moſt gracious manner. The duke was dreſſed in blue velvet, with a yellow ſattin waiſtcoat, white ſilk ſtockings, diamond buckles, the order of the garter, and a feathered hat. The princeſs was in a cloſe habit like a riding-dreſs, with the enſigns of the Ruſſian order of St. Catharine. The converſation was ſhort, and turned chiefly about the queen their ſiſter; that they expected every moment an expreſs with the news of her majeſty's delivery; and that all preparations had been made to celebrate the happy tidings. Accordingly the guns were drawn out before the palace, and the fire-works were ready. They dropped ſome compliments concerning my Hiſtory; and told me, they hoped I ſhould find ſome amuſement in Strelitz. I then returned with the marſhal to the antichamber, where I found baron Dewitz. I cannot expreſs

preſs the pleaſure I felt at ſeeing this nobleman, for whom I had ſo profound a reſpect, from the knowledge I had of his moſt amiable qualities. So agreeable a ſight, in ſuch a diſtant part of the world, cheared my heart, and inſpired me with the moſt lively ſentiments. We had not time to converſe much; the baron only told me, in ſhort, that ſo long as I chuſed to ſtay at Strelitz I was to dine and ſup at his highneſs's table; that he expected me to breakfaſt always with himſelf; and that he ſhould be glad to introduce me to his lady, having changed his condition ſince his return from London. I had been already acquainted by count de Bothmar, that the baron had married a lady of exquiſite beauty. In the midſt of our converſation the trumpet ſounded, to ſignify that his highneſs was going to dinner.

The duke and the princeſs his ſiſter ſoon after appeared, holding each other arm in arm, ſeveral ladies followed, and the gentlemen leading up the train, they all entered a handſome ſaloon, where we ſaw about twenty covers. Before the company ſat down, the marſhal of the court, with one of the pages, advanced towards the table, while the reſt of the company ſtood round: the page ſaid grace with an audible voice, and then the duke took his place; the princeſs his ſiſter ſat on his right hand, and one of the court ladies on his left.

The

The reſt ſat down to table without any diſtinction of perſons. Baron Dewitz placed himſelf oppoſite the duke and princeſs, and made me ſit next to him, in order to have the opportunity of converſing either with their highneſſes or himſelf with more eaſe. The company conſiſted chiefly of the gentlemen of the bed-chamber, the ladies of honour, and the officers on guard. Our entertainment was a ſoup, with three courſes and a deſert. Among other varieties there was excellent veniſon, of which they have great plenty, but they do not ſeem to be over-fond of it. We had abundance of wines, as French white wine, claret, old hock, champagne, and burgundy; but their common draught is the French white wine, which when of a proper age, is excellent in its kind. The claret, which they call Pontac, is indifferent; but their burgundy is very good, and I gave it the preference. An officer ſtands with the liquor on a beaufet in a corner of the hall, where he fills out to the ſervants: theſe are the pages, heydukes, footmen, &c. &c. who ſtand behind the company, and take the glaſs out of your hand, whenever you preſent it them for liquor. Some of the gentlemen in waiting always carve, and after helping their highneſſes, they ſend a plateful round to each of the company. The whole is done with great eaſe, and diſpatch. I obſerved that a page always holds a plate under the duke's glaſs

glaſs whenever he drinks. No healths were toaſted; this cuſtom being laid aſide at great tables, except that the duke drinks to the king and queen of Great Britain juſt before he riſes from dinner. I had almoſt forgot to mention to you, that we had very good beer, of his highneſs's own brewing, which comes from the neighbouring town of Mirow, where her majeſty was born. There was alſo ſome Engliſh beer, which the duke is very fond of; and he has it in bottles from Hamburg. I reckon that dinner laſted about an hour and a half, during which time the whole company converſed with the greateſt freedom and hilarity. Their ſerene highneſſes did not ſit at the head, but in the middle of the table. When the company had dined, the duke made a ſignal, and they all roſe. The ſame page again, with the marſhal of the court, drew near the table, and returned God thanks, when their highneſſes, arm in arm, withdrew to another apartment. They drank coffee ſtanding, which was ſerved by the pages and the heydukes. Thus they converſed near half an hour, during which their ſerene highneſſes and the ladies aſked me ſeveral queſtions concerning England. In about half an hour their highneſſes retired, and baron Dewitz introduced me, firſt to his ſiſter and the ladies of honour, and then to moſt of the officers belonging to the court.

I fell

I fell more particularly into converſation with counſellor Reinhard, a gentleman of great eminence in this country. He is a member of the privy council, and one of the judges of their court of Chancery. He ſpeaks moſt European languages, and even Engliſh tolerably well, though he never was out of his own country. M. Reinhard invited me to his houſe, where he ſhewed me his library, which is well choſen, and conſiſts of books in moſt branches of learning. The counſellor is a living library himſelf, a *helluo librorum*, a real prodigy of erudition: but the laws and government of the empire in general, and of his own country in particular, are now become his principal ſtudy. He talked to me a good deal about the Engliſh conſtitution, and the forms obſerved in our courts of juſtice. Some doubts I ſtarted concerning the government of Mecklenburg, and he ſome with regard to that of England, which we endeavoured to ſolve to our mutual ſatisfaction. I thought myſelf very happy in the company of ſo agreeable and learned a gentleman; when a clergyman entered the room, who, as the counſellor told me, had been preceptor to the ducal family, and conſequently concerned in the education of her majeſty. This was M. Gentzmer, rector of the town of Stargard. He is a very pleaſant old gentleman, of ſound morality and learning. His ſtudies are directed chiefly towards antiquities

quities and natural hiſtory; and he is ſaid to have the beſt collection of foſſils, minerals, and curious ſtones, of any perſon in this country. He ſollicitouſly enquired after her majeſty's health, and then entered into the civil and natural hiſtory of Mecklenburg. Thus the evening paſſed very agreeably, when M. Reinhard's ſervant came to acquaint us that the duke's coach was at the door to carry us to court.

We found his highneſs at cards in the preſence-chamber, with ſome of his officers. There were other tables in that and the adjacent apartment for the company, moſt of whom played at whiſt, and ſome few at quadrille. Baron Dewitz was there; but in the evening he comes only to talk with the duke about the buſineſs of his department, and then goes home to his lady. At nine the trumpet called the family to ſupper, and the ſame ceremony, as to the grace, was obſerved as at dinner. The princeſs is not in the beſt health, and therefore does not come down ſtairs at night; ſo that in her ſtead the duke leads one of the ladies of honour by the arm, generally madam de Koſboth. The number of diſhes at ſupper was much the ſame as at dinner. The duke talked to me with great affability, and ſeemed highly pleaſed with the account of my progreſs through

through the country of Mecklenburg. We roſe from table in leſs than an hour; the duke taking madam Koſboth again by the arm, withdrew to the preſence-chamber, followed by the reſt of the gentlemen and ladies. There we converſed ſtanding above half an hour, when his highneſs made a bow to the company, and we all retired. This is the manner of living every day at court, without any material alteration, except that on ſome ſolemnities or feſtivals there are four courſes inſtead of three. The duke's coach carried me home to my lodging. Before I fell aſleep, I heard the watch ſounding their horn, as they cry the hour, which is the cuſtom throughout this country. They alſo chant ſome religious verſes, to furniſh matter for nocturnal meditation. The next morning I waited on baron Dewitz, according to agreement, about nine o'clock, in order to breakfaſt with him. This is his leiſure-time of chatting, before the hour of attending the buſineſs of his department. Here he aſſured me moſt cordially of the great pleaſure he had in ſeeing me, and approved very much of my expedition to Mecklenburg. He told me, that their ſerene highneſſes were alſo pleaſed with my coming, and would uſe all endeavours to procure me farther materials for completing my ſecond volume. As to amuſement, he ſaid I ſhould

want for none; and that the whole court, and himſelf eſpecially, would ſtudy to render my ſtay agreeable. I leave you to imagine how much I was pleaſed with this friendly declaration; and indeed I wanted words to expreſs my acknowledgment.

In the midſt of this diſcourſe madam Dewitz came into the room, and the baron preſented me to his lady. I roſe and kiſſed her hand with awful reverence; for I was greatly ſtruck at the ſight of ſo much ſweetneſs, innocence, and beauty. This lady is very young, not above twenty; her maiden name is Barleben, and ſhe is daughter of a nobleman of that name, whoſe eſtate lies at a place called Genzkow, in the diſtrict of Stargard. She is of a middling ſtature, a very delicate make, and moſt engaging deportment. Her complexion rivals the Parian marble, and the bloom of the damaſk roſe over-ſpreads her cheeks. Her face is rather round than oval; her eyes are black, and ſparkling like diamonds; her forehead large; her eye-brows auburne, and forming a beautiful arch; her mouth little, with lips of a roſy hue; and, in ſhort, the Graces ſeated in every part of her lovely countenance. When ſhe came to ſpeak, hearing gave new pleaſure to the ſight, but a reverential pleaſure.

Like

Like a calm ſea, which to th' enlarged view,
Gives pleaſure, but gives fear and reverence too.

Beſides her own language, ſhe ſpeaks very good French, and expreſſes herſelf with ſuch ſweetneſs of voice, and ſo graceful a ſmile, as are inimitably ſtriking. In ſhort, her looks, her mien, her deportment, her voice, announced her ſomething more than human; and I confeſs that I gazed upon her, for a few moments, as on an angelic form, dropped down from the heavenly abodes.

This you will call, perhaps, a poetic flight; yet the portrait, I aſſure you, fell ſhort of the original. I was in a kind of rapture, and had ſcarce recovered myſelf when we ſat down to breakfaſt. A variety of ſubjects came upon the carpet, and the baron gave me the whole hiſtory of his courtſhip and marriage, which was concluded in a month. He alſo entertained me with ſeveral anecdotes concerning the moſt eminent courtiers. As I was going away M. Genzmer, the antiquarian, came in; and after a ſhort converſation, the baron deſired him to conduct me to the Rev. Mr. Maſch, ſuperintendant of Strelitz. This is the name the Lutherans give to the chiefs of their clergy, and which anſwers pretty much in power and juriſdiction to that of biſhop.

The ſuperintendant was at home, and received me with all the marks of good-nature. He is a tall handſome man, between forty and fifty, of a pleaſant open countenance, and moſt chearful diſpoſition. He was born at Beſeritz, a ſmall town between New Brandenburg and Friedland, where his father, alſo a miniſter, is ſtill living, at the age of eighty-ſix. For learning and piety few can equal, but none excel him. He underſtands Engliſh, but does not ſpeak it; yet is very converſant with our beſt writers. They reckon him the beſt preacher in the whole country; and he is greatly eſteemed by the duke and all ranks of people. He is married to a very agreeable lady, by whom he has ſeveral fine children. The houſe in which he lives is a handſome commodious building, but belongs to the duke, who has aſſigned it for the reſidence of the chief eccleſiaſtic of his dominions. The ſuperintendant is one of thoſe diſtinguiſhed perſonages who dine at court when they pleaſe; but he does not often make uſe of the privilege, on account of its breaking too much into his time, which he applies moſt cloſely to his domeſtic concerns, his ſtudies, and his paſtoral function. He was pleaſed to ſhew me his library, which is a very large and well choſen collection. Among the curioſities in the typographical way, the chief are: 1. Lactantius's Inſtitutes, the firſt book printed

printed at Roſtock, 1476. 2. A treatiſe of St. Auſtin *de conflictu Vitiorum & Virtutum*, printed at Nuremberg, 1467. 3. A treatiſe *de Jud. & Chriſt. Converſ.* with a bull of pope Nicholas dated 1447. 4. An edition of the Vulgate, printed at Baſil in 1487. 5. The Vulgate edition of the New Teſtament, *cum Comment. Lyrani, Norimb.* 1475. 6. The Pentateuch, Joſhua, Judges, Kings, and the New Teſtament, printed at Wittenberg, 1526, a very ſcarce copy, and ſuppoſed to have been publiſhed by Luther. 7. A Dominican Miſſal, printed at Venice, 1500, by John Emeric de Spira. 8. *Breviarium Halberſtat. edit. ab Alberto Marchione Brand. Archiep. Mag. & Mog.* 9. *Margarita Decreti impreſſ. Argentinæ, per Joan. Ruſs*, 1487. He alſo ſhewed me ſome very ancient records of the towns of Ratzeburg and Friedland.

After we had converſed a good deal on literary matters, M. Genzmer ſet out for Stargard, where he told me he ſhould be glad to ſee me, and the ſuperintendant and I went to dine at court. The princeſs was a little indiſpoſed, and did not appear that day in public; but the duke came at the uſual hour, and with the uſual ceremonies. He was dreſſed in crimſon velvet; and I have ſince obſerved that he is differently apparelled almoſt every day. There were two ſtrangers at table, both of them noblemen of Mecklenburg, baron Raven and baron Gam. The latter, who is chamberlain to

the king of Denmark, is a tall handſome man, of a grave deportment, and well verſed in public affairs, having been employed, if I am not miſtaken, by that monarch, as miniſter to the court of Spain. He is the laſt of his family, a very noble family indeed, being deſcended from the famous Gam, who was hanged by duke Henry the Lion, of Saxony, for his ſteady and invariable adherence to his unfortunate ſovereign Pribiſlaus. At dinner the company were free and chearful, and every thing paſſed in the ſame agreeable manner as the preceding day.

The duke is entirely void of pride or ſtiffneſs, converſing in ſuch a manner with thoſe about him, as to remove all conſtraint. I begin to be acquainted with the company, and the ladies in particular behave to me with extraordinary politeneſs and affability. After dinner I retired with the ſuperintendant, who carried me to ſee his neighbour, Dr. Verpoorten, phyſician to his ſerene highneſs. The doctor and his lady received us very politely, and entertained us with variety of refreſhments. Dr. Verpoorten is a middle-ſized man, of a very ſwarthy complexion, but regular features, and a grave countenance. He is rather baſhful in his carriage, conſidering that he is a courtier, and, as I am told, a favourite of the duke. He was born at Coburg, in the circle of Franconia, and his father was phyſician to the prince of

that name. The ſon entered as phyſician into the ſervice of the father of the preſent duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz, has continued to act in the ſame quality to his highneſs, and is much reſpected and beloved for his integrity and abilities. His wife is daughter to the famous M. Denner, a painter at Hamburg, who has been much talked of for his religious principles as a Mennoniſt. Mrs. Verpoorten ſpeaks pretty good Engliſh, having been over in England with her father when ſhe was young, and has ever ſince retained the language. She learned alſo to draw of her father, and is reckoned a very good limner, of which ſhe has given convincing teſtimonies. The doctor, after coffee, took us into his cabinet, where he ſhewed us a great number of artificial and natural rarities; but his chief collection is in all ſorts of curious ſtones, of which he has a prodigious variety, rough and poliſhed. His foſſils and ſhells are alſo worth notice. I never ſaw ſo many Cornua Ammonis, all from the neighbourhood of Coburg: the collection was begun by his grandfather, and the doctor himſelf has been very diligent in improving it. From thence Mrs. Verpoorten led us to her gallery of pictures, moſt of which were done by her father. There are ſome good pieces alſo by herſelf; and among the reſt a portrait of her majeſty before her marriage, which is reckoned a very good likeneſs.

It was now paſt ſix o'clock, and I had promiſed the ladies to be at court in the evening, in order to make a party at cards; I was therefore obliged to take my leave; and making what haſte I could, I found the ladies, with ſome of the officers and gentlemen in waiting, who all entered into a familiar diſcourſe with me. Preſently after came the barons Gam and Raven, who joined converſation.

The duke appeared in the preſence-chamber exactly at ſeven, which is his uſual hour of evening relaxation, and he plays till nine. There were ſeveral tables in that and the adjacent room. The duke, the two barons, and captain Pleſſe, an officer of the guards, played at one table; and at the next I had the honour of being ſeated with three court ladies, mademoiſelle Dewitz, madam Koſboth, and mademoiſelle Rauchbar. We all played at whiſt, which is become the faſhionable game of this place. At the duke's table they play for half-crowns, but at ours we only played for about a ſhilling a corner. The duke likes cards as an amuſement, but is an enemy to deep gaming. Baron Dewitz came to talk to his highneſs, as uſual, before ſupper, but ſoon after went home. Before the duke roſe from the card table, an officer preſented to him a paper, mentioning the names of ſtrangers

who arrived that day at Strelitz; the duke read it aloud to the company; and this is the practice every night. After we had supped, and taken our leave of his highneſs, the two barons, Gam and Raven, went home with me in the ſame coach; for they lodged at burgomaſter Strubing's. Baron Gam, as I mentioned to you before, is a very ſenſible nobleman: I am ſorry he has no thoughts of marrying; for as he is the laſt of that worthy family, it is likely to be extinct. He talks of ſelling his eſtate in Mecklenburg, and retiring entirely to Denmark, for what reaſon he did not chuſe to mention. We chatted a good deal in our way home, and afterwards in his apartment, till it was time to betake ourſelves to repoſe.

The day following, after breakfaſting as uſual, at baron Dewitz's, the baron ſhewed me his lady's picture, and his own; both which are extremely well done. I went from thence to ſee counſellor Reinhard; and in paſſing thro' the duke's garden, I ſaw his highneſs on foot, in a green velvet great coat, trimmed with gold, attended by two heydukes; he went up towards the Parade, to view his troops, who were going to mount guard. The counſellor and I entered into a cloſe converſation, when Dr. Verpoorten came in; and we walked out together, to view the palace, and pay ſeveral

ral viſits. Before dinner I had the honour of preſenting a copy of my Vandalia to his ſerene highneſs, and he was pleaſed to receive it with the utmoſt benignity; he condeſcended even to expreſs how much his family were indebted to me, for the pains I had taken in writing, and in coming ſo far to illuſtrate their hiſtory. After dinner I performed the ſame compliment to the princeſs, in a private apartment; her highneſs received me with equal goodneſs, paid me the ſame compliment, and withal told me, that ſhe hoped my book would be uſeful to her in her endeavours to learn the Engliſh language. The reſt of the afternoon I ſpent in making viſits, and at the uſual time, I came to play at cards at the palace.

The duke did me the honour to make me one of his party, with two of the court ladies; we played at whiſt, and I find that his highneſs underſtands it perfectly well. I have had the honour of playing with him ſince at ombre, and I perceive that he has altogether *l'eſprit de jeu*; yet, as I told you before, he does not encourage gaming. I went home with the two barons, and muſt own that I have greatly improved in their converſation.

You ſee I am now initiated at the court of Strelitz. My manner of life is pretty uniform: I riſe between ſeven and eight, breakfaſt with baron Dewitz at nine, make viſits till twelve;

twelve; then dreſs and go to dine at court at one, ſtay there till three, walk and viſit till ſeven, play at cards at court till nine, ſup, and retire between ten and eleven. Thus I am pretty well enabled *à connoître le terrein*; I ſhall therefore attempt to give you a regular account of this court, with the characters of the principal perſonages; but firſt of all I apprehend it will be proper to ſend you a deſcription of the town of Old Strelitz, as well as of this princely reſidence.

Old Strelitz is ſituated in a large plain, almoſt ſurrounded with moraſſes. The adjacent country is a ſandy ſoil; but a fine foreſt extends itſelf in the neighbourhood towards Stargard, abounding with all ſorts of game. Strelitz, in the Venedic or Sclavonian language, ſignifies a javelin or huntſman: and from thence the town is ſuppoſed to have derived its name; for, in all probability, the ancient kings of the Obotrites had a hunting-ſeat in this neighbourhood. Strelitz was only a village till the year 1349, when it was erected into a town by Otho and Ulric, counts of Furſtenberg, and of the noble family of Dewitz, on whom it was conferred, together with the county of Furſtenberg, by John and Albert dukes of Mecklenburg: but upon the diſgrace of the above counts of Furſtenberg, it devolved again to the ducal family.

The

The founders favoured it with many privileges, which have been ſince confirmed by the dukes of Mecklenburg. This place has often ſuffered by fire, like all the other towns in this country; yet was choſen by duke Adolphus Frederic II. the firſt of the line of Strelitz, for his reſidence, on account of a commodious palace. Since that time Strelitz increaſed in buildings; new ſtreets were opened, the old houſes pulled down, and others of better architecture ſubſtituted in their room. The town is of a moderate circumference, the ſtreets wide and regular; but the houſes are too low to make any figure. There is a pretty good market-place, and the inhabitants carry on a middling trade in cattle and hops. They have four fairs every year, which laſt two days; on the firſt they ſell cattle, and on the others all ſorts of merchandize. The pariſh-church is a tolerable good ſtructure, but contains nothing remarkable. There are a great number of Jews in the town, who have lately built, with the duke's permiſſion, a very handſome ſynagogue.

In the year 1712, Adolphus Frederic III. duke of Strelitz, and his whole family, narrowly eſcaped periſhing in a great fire, which broke out in the night, and burned down the old palace, with all its coſtly furniture and valuable effects. In conſequence of this misfortune, his ſerene highneſs began to erect a ſumptuous palace, in

1726,

1726, about two Engliſh miles from the town of Strelitz, in a very pleaſant ſituation, at a place called Glieneke, which before was his hunting-ſeat. In the year 1733, he thought proper to found a new town adjoining to the palace, and ordered it to be called by the name of New Strelitz. This new town is laid out in a moſt regular manner, in the form of a ſtar; the centre is a ſpacious market-place; and from thence a number of ſtreets branch out in ſtraight lines: the chief one leads to the palace, and is called Palace-ſtreet; the next to the water-ſide, where a pleaſant lake attracts the eye. The buildings in theſe two ſtreets are elegant and commodious, and in ſome of the others there are handſome houſes. The duke gives great encouragement to builders; ſo that by this means, and the number of nobility who come to live near the court, the town enlarges every day; hence it is imagined by many, that the buildings will in time reach to Old Strelitz, and both together conſtitute one large handſome city.

The air of this new town is clear and wholeſome, and the water alſo of a ſalubrious quality. There are ſeveral inns, and two very good ones, belonging to two couſins, both of the name of Strubing; one the burgomaſter, where I lodge, and the other the poſtmaſter. The inha-

inhabitants keep their accounts in dollars and ſchillings: a dollar is about four ſhillings Engliſh, a ſchilling a penny; but the ſilver here current being more mixed with alloy than that in the duchy of Mecklenburg Schwerin, and at Hamburg, is called light money. Their gold coin is chiefly ducats and piſtoles. One thing baron Dewitz has aſſured me, that a dollar in this country will go as far, that is, will purchaſe as much as a pound ſterling in London; and you know he lived there long enough to judge of the difference. Indeed, proviſions here are in great plenty, and all excellent in their kind. They have two ſorts of beer; one, the common draught, called town beer; and the other brewed at Ruppin in Brandenburg, which is ſtronger and dearer; but they are both very good. The former, I am told, comes from Mirow, where the brewery is in the hands of the duke, which makes a great part of his revenue; and I remember it the ſame in Bavaria. But, that you may be a better judge of the plenty and cheapneſs of proviſions, I will give you the following liſt of their prices.

Prices

LETTER XI.

Prices of Proviſions, and other Neceſſaries, at New-Strelitz, Oct. 1. 1766.

	Dollar.	Schill.
Wheat, per buſhel,	1	24
Rye,	0	40
Barley,	0	38
Oats,	0	21
Peaſe,	1	8
Potatoes,	0	32
Wheaten flour, per meaſure,	0	7
Rye ditto,	0	4
Salt,	0	3½
Fifteen eggs,	0	6
A load of hard wood,	0	28
Ditto ſoft wood,	0	24
Beef, per pound,	0	3
Mutton, ditto,	0	3
Veal, ditto,	0	2
Pork, ditto,	0	3½
Large fiſh, per pound,	0	2
Small fiſh, ditto,	0	1
Butter, per pound,	0	8
Olive oil,	0	8
Caſk candles,	0	7
Drawn candles,	0	6
Dutch cheeſe,	0	6
Common cheeſe,	0	2
White ſoap, per pound,	0	7
Green ſoap, ditto,	0	5
French brandy, per pot,	0	12
Corn brandy, ditto,	0	6

Town

	Dollar.	Schill.
Town beer, per pot,	0	1
Ruppin, ditto,	0	2
Roſtock vinegar, per pot,	0	1
A gooſe,	0	16
A duck,	0	8
A fowl,	0	6
A couple of chickens,	0	6
A couple of pigeons,	0	4

N. B. The dollars and ſchillings here are in light money; ſo that the dollar is not exactly four ſhillings, nor the ſchilling exactly a penny, but one-fourth leſs.

The chief buildings in the town of New Strelitz have been erected by the late duke, and his preſent highneſs, for the accommodation of the different officers belonging to the houſhold. There are public ſtructures for the courts of juſtice, the conſiſtory, the mint, and the chamber of finances. His highneſs is likewiſe upon the point of building a handſome parochial church, with a town-houſe, in the great market-place, which will greatly add to the beauty of New Strelitz.

But the principal ornament of this capital is the magnificent palace, erected here, as I mentioned to you before, by duke Adolphus Frederic III. in 1726. The reverend Mr. Maſch has favoured me with a plan of this elegant ſtructure, of his own drawing. The ſituation is delightful, on a riſing ground, and dry

ſoil, with a deer park in front, and a ſpacious garden, with a beautiful lake at the back. It is a quadrangular pile, built chiefly of ſtone, three ſtories high, reckoning the ground-floor; the architecture extremely light and elegant. Two large wings project from the main body in a ſtrait line, between which is a ſpacious area or court. The wings are ſixty feet each in length, and the main body one hundred and twenty. The court chapel is in the right wing, and in the left is the grand ſaloon. The principal ſtair-caſe is large and light, leading to a handſome hall, where the duke commonly dines. Contiguous to this hall, on the right hand, are two rooms, from whence you paſs to the preſence-chamber, and his highneſs's private apartments. The preſence-chamber is extremely beautiful, being of a due proportion, and the furniture of the higheſt contrivance and elegance: in the middle is a rich chair of ſtate, intended, as I ſuppoſe, for public ceremonies; but, tho' there have been ſome here in my time, I never ſaw his highneſs ſit in it. On the other ſide of the hall are ſeveral good rooms, which lead to a kind of gallery, and from thence you advance to the grand ſaloon. This is really a magnificent piece, decorated with ſtucco, gilding, and every other embelliſhment. It is lofty and ſpacious, about ſixty feet long and forty in breadth, with a gallery for the muſic. This

grand room is uſed only on feſtivals, when there are balls and aſſemblies; and then it is cuſtomary for the duke and the whole court to dine and ſup there. The next floor is aſſigned for her ſerene highneſs's apartments, as well as for thoſe of the duke's brothers when they come to Strelitz, and thoſe belonging to the dames de cour, or ladies of honour. On the ground-floor lodges the marſhal of the court, baron Zeſterfleth, whoſe apartment is neat and elegant. Proceeding from thence towards the garden, on the left hand you find the grand apartments, which are abſolutely ſuperb. The cieling conſiſts of compartments, curiouſly wrought in ſtucco, the ſides enriched with pictures, glaſſes, and other ornaments; and the furniture quite new, rich, and well-choſen. The chairs are all lined with crimſon damaſk, edged and flowered with gold; and, indeed, the whole is very ſplendid.

On the right-hand, oppoſite to theſe apartments, are ſeveral rooms, full of curioſities and valuable moveables, but not ranged in proper order. Among other things I beheld with admiration, a complete ſervice of Chelſea porcelane, rich and beautiful in fancy beyond expreſſion. I really never ſaw any Dreſden porcelane near ſo fine: her majeſty made a preſent of this choice collection to the duke her brother; a preſent worthy of ſo great a princeſs. The

chapel

chapel on this ſide is beautifully finiſhed, but not crowded with ornaments; the pulpit is over the altar, and round the whole runs a gallery for the duke's houſhold and the nobility; but the part fronting the pulpit is appropriated to his ſerene highneſs.

From the back-gate of the palace you deſcend by a handſome flight of ſtone ſteps into the garden, where the eye is immediately preſented with a charming landſcape. Before you is a beautiful parterre, leading to a double row of trees, which form the grand avenue: this is terminated by a handſome terrace, with a gradual ſlope to the edge of a ſpacious lake, on the oppoſite bank of which you behold a pretty village; and farther on is a vaſt tract of foreſt land, outſtretching the ſight. On each ſide of the grand avenue are groves and alleys, with a variety of labyrinths; and a curious grotto on the right hand, much admired for its ſhell-work. In this ſame grand avenue you ſee ſeveral ſtatues, copied from antiques, and extremely well executed. On the right ſide of the garden is the orangery, conſiſting of a ſpacious ſaloon, elegantly built, and kept in good order. On the left is a kitchen garden, with pleaſant walks and arbours. Before the palace is the Parade, a ſpacious area terminating in the deer park. On the left of this Parade are ſome public offices; and at a ſmall diſtance the duke's coach-houſe, and ſtables.

His highneſs has a number of carriages, ſome of which are quite magnificent. His ſtables are well ſtocked with horſes, tho' he ſeldom rides. His coach-horſes are very beautiful, and he ſeems fondeſt of his greys, which came from Holſtein. Fronting the left of the garden is the riding-houſe, a very good building: cloſe by are convenient ſtructures for the principal officers; at one of them lives baron Bulow, maſter of the horſe; and baron Dewitz at the fartheſt of all. Theſe houſes are prettily ſituated, having a view of the lake, and of the duke's palace and garden. Towards the town the duke has lately cauſed a paliſade to be raiſed round the garden, and from the back-door of the palace there is a covered way, where a perſon may walk without being expoſed to the rain. I take this wholeſome exerciſe every morning in the garden, after I come from baron Dewitz; but I very ſeldom ſee any body here beſides myſelf; and in general I have obſerved that they are not fond of perambulating in this part of Germany. I took a walk the other day to Old Strelitz, which is only two miles diſtant from hence: their ſerene highneſſes were both ſurpriſed at my undertaking ſo fatiguing a journey, as they were pleaſed to call it; and the duke gave me a gentle reprimand for not ordering one of his coaches. I anſwered their highneſſes, that we were accuſtomed to walk a good deal in England, and

that

that I was obliged to uſe every day twice that exerciſe, in order to keep myſelf in any tolerable degree of health.

Thus I have given you, my dear friend, a ſuccinct account of this princely reſidence; my next ſhall be a portraiture of the chief perſonages on this courtly theatre: I will ſend you the out-lines of their characters; but as I am not the beſt limner, you will excuſe any defect in the colouring, if I have only preſerved a likeneſs. I can aſſure you, that I ſhall miſrepreſent nothing; for you will ever find me a lover of truth, and invariable in the ſincerity with which I declare myſelf,

Dear Sir, yours, &c.

LETTER XII.

Strelitz, October 21, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

ONE of the greateſt politicians of the preſent age, has given us a frightful picture of the courts of princes, ſufficient to render them moſt odious to every man who has a regard to the principles of honour and virtue. "Ambition * (he ſays) mixed with idleneſs, meanneſs with pride; a deſire of riches without induſtry; averſion to truth; flattery, perfidy, violation of engagements; contempt of civil duties; fear of the prince's virtue, hope from his weakneſs; but above all, a perpetual ridicule caſt upon virtue, are the characteriſtics by which moſt courtiers, in all ages and countries, have been conſtantly diſtinguiſhed." How juſtly this repreſentation may be applied to the courts of powerful monarchs, where luxury and corruption have eſtabliſhed their empire,

* Monteſquieu's Spirit of Laws, v. I. p. 34. laſt edit.

I ſhall

I ſhall not pretend to determine; but I can venture to affirm that the court of Strelitz, ſo far from anſwering this deſcription, is the very reverſe of ſuch a hideous picture. They have no ambition here, but that of ſerving their prince and country; they idle not away their time, but act with the utmoſt diligence in their reſpective departments; they behave with a juſt dignity and decorum, avoiding the extremes of meanneſs and pride; they are content with their paternal fortunes, which ſet them above the inordinate deſire of riches; they are open and ſincere, which renders them lovers of truth; they have no occaſion to cringe to a prince whoſe averſion is flattery; they have the higheſt ideas of honour, and conſequently are true to their engagements; they have an inviolable regard for all civil duties; they have a love for their prince on account of his virtues, and eſteem him for his capacity: to conclude, it may be truly ſaid that, inſtead of encouraging the ridicule of virtue, this court is a pattern of morality and religion, a ſchool of probity and honour, a ſeminary of politeneſs, and in fine, the ſeat of every ſocial virtue.

This, my dear friend, is no exaggeration, but a fair portrait. The court of Strelitz, indeed, is not very numerous, but it is one of the moſt regular and moſt agreeable of any in the whole empire. No private family is go-

verned with more order; and perhaps no prince is ſerved by abler officers, and with greater diligence and affection. Many of the gentlemen employed in the civil department, would do honour to the firſt court in Europe for their integrity and abilities. I intend to delineate ſome of their characters, but firſt ſhall give you a ſketch of the preſent ſtate of the court.

The

COURT of STRELITZ.

The SOVEREIGN,

His ſerene highneſs ADOLPH FREDERIC IV. Duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz, born the 5th of May, 1738, came to the ſovereignty, upon the death of his uncle Duke Adolph Frederic III. the 11th of December, 1752.

Brothers and Siſters to his Royal Highneſs.

1. Charles Lewis Frederic, born the 10th of October 1741, a lieutenant general in the Hanoverian ſervice; he reſides at Hanover.
2. Erneſt Gotlob Albert, born the 27th of Auguſt 1742; major general in the Hanoverian ſervice; he reſides at Zell, of which he is governor.
3. George Auguſtus, born the 16th of Auguſt, 1748, in the empreſs queen's ſervice; he is upon his travels.
4. Chriſtiana Sophia Albertina, born the 6th of December, 1735.
5. SOPHIA CHARLOTTE, born the 16th of May 1744, married to our moſt gracious ſovereign King GEORGE III. the 8th of September, 1761, and crowned the 22d of September the ſame year.

The

The DUKE'S HOUSEHOLD.

Marſhal of the Court,—His excellency baron Zeſterfleth, privy-counſellor.

Mayor of the Palace,* — Baron Dewitz, privy-counſellor.

Chief Cup-bearer,— vacant.

Firſt Gentleman of the Bed-chamber,—Baron Gentzkow.

Gentlemen of the Bed-chamber, — Baron Charles Frederic Theodore Behmen. Baron Adolph Frederic Witzendorf. Baron Victor William Oertz. Baron Botho Chriſtopher Balthaſar Dewitz. Bartholomæus Norman. Wedige Koſboth, lieutenant of the body-guard.

Dames de la Cour, or *Ladies of Honour*, —Madam de Koſboth. Mademoiſelle de Rauchbar. Mademoiſelle de Dewitz. Mademoiſelle de Seltzer.

Phyſicians,—John Chriſtian William Verpoorten, court-counſellor. M. Hempel, court-counſellor.

Chief Surgeon,—M. Gotſche.

Pages,—Frederic Curt George Hammin, Francis Lewis Hadenſtorff, Chriſtian Lewis Altrock, Adolph Frederic Albert Hatt, Frederic Ernest Hart.

Maſter of the Pages,—M. John Charles Peatz.

* Thus I tranſlate *Schloſs-hauptman*, which literally ſignifies, Captain of the Caſtle.

Fencing-

Fencing-maſter,—vacant.
Language-maſter,—M. Schommer.
Dancing-maſter,—M. Dorty.
Valets de Chambre, — Meſſrs. Aſmi, Mamerow, Tſchierpe, Gotſche, Neumann.
Court Harbinger,— M. Rieck.
Court Trumpeters,— Meſſrs. Lutze, Gobbin, Greinert, Henne, Biſchoff.
Court Kettle-drum,—M. Clemme.
Bed-maker,—M. Henderick.
Head Cook,—M. Dannehl.
Clerk of the Kitchen,—M. Grapow.
Cooks,—Meſſrs. Haſſelman, Hanſchen, Romhild, Tile.
Aſſiſtants,—Meſſrs. Bahr, Munzel.

The DUKE'S CELLAR.

Cup-bearers,—M. Oeltzner, M. Schmidt.
Gentleman Cup-bearer,—M. Wiemroth.
Confectioner,—M. Schmidt.

The DUKE'S STABLES.

Maſter of the Horſe,—Baron Bülow.
Equerries,—Baron Pleſſe, M. Siamſon.
Riding-maſter,—M. Hempel.
Coach-maſter,—M. Schlicht.
Sadler,—M. Scholl.
Farrier,—M. Frenzel.

Officers

OFFICERS *belonging to the* DUKE'S HUNT.

Great Huntſman,—vacant.
Gentleman of the Hunt,—Baron Behmen.
Firſt Foreſter,—M. Boldt.
Secretary of the Foreſts,—M. Pegel.

The DUKE'S BAND OF MUSIC.

Singers,—Mrs. Coghoen, Miſs Sonnen.
Muſic-maſter,—M. Zeller.
Firſt Violin,—M. Seidel.
Second and Traverſ.—M. Meyer, M. Richter.
Harpſichord,—M. Lyncke.
French-horns,—M. Erhardt, M. Stoltze.
Violoncello,—M. Brauer.
Hautboy,—M. Hentrich.

The DUKE'S CHAPEL.

Court Preacher, and Council of the Conſiſtory, —M. A. G. Maſch.
Organiſt,—M. Liemke.
Clerk,—M. Grantzow.
Sexton,—M. Petſch.

OFFICERS of the CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

The PRIVY COUNCIL.

Preſident, — His excellency baron Zeſterfleth. M. Jacobi; Baron Dewitz; M. Seip, chancery counſellor and archivarius.

Secretary,

Secretary,—M. Reinhard, chancery counſellor.
Regiſter,—M. Horn.

The COURT of EXCHEQUER.

Preſident,—His excellency baron Zeſterfleth.
Baron Dewitz, member of the privy council.
Counſellors or Judges,—M. Winnemer, M. Scheven, M. Reinhard, baron Gentzkow.
Secretary,—vacant.
Regiſter,—M. Cron.
Commiſſarius Cameræ,—M. Quinkard.

The MINT.

Maſter of the Mint,—M. Lowe.

The COURT of CHANCERY for the Adminiſtration of Juſtice.

Preſident,—His excellency baron Zeſterfleth.
Counſellors or Judges,—M. Seip, baron Gentzkow, M. Gerling, M. Reinhard, M. Goſſel.
Secretary,—M. Bluth.

The CONSISTORIAL COURT, relating to Eccleſiaſtical Affairs.

Preſident,—His excellency baron Zeſterfleth.
Counſellors or Judges,—M. Jacobi, M. Seip, the ſuperintendant M. Maſch, and Mr. Gerling.
Secretary,—M. Horn.
Principal Eccleſiaſtics,—The reverend Mr. Maſch, ſuperintendant of Strelitz, and preacher to his ſerene highneſs;

The

The rev. Mr. Gerling, rector of New Strelitz;
The rev. Mr. Eggers, rector of Old Strelitz.
The rev. Mr. Leithauſer, rector of Mirow.
The rev. Mr. Genzmer, rector of Stargard.
The rev. Mr. Kirchſtein, rector of New Brandenburg.

OFFICERS of the DIET, or PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY.

Land Marſhal,—Baron Hahn, and baron Pleetz, who hold this poſt by inheritance.
Land Counſellor,—Baron de Warburg.
Deputies of the Circle of Stargard to the provincial Aſſembly of Roſtock.
From the Nobility,—Baron Genzkow, and baron Jaatzke.
From the Burghers, — M. Schroder, burgomaſter of New Brandenburg.
Land-Syndicus,—M. Piſtorius.
Secretaries and Notaries,—M. Godemann, and M. Crazius.

The DUKE'S BODY GUARDS.

Colonel,—Baron de Cramm.
Major,—M. de Rebeur.
Captain,—M. Vette.
Lieutenants,—M. Kahlden, M. Koſboth.

Here I have given you a liſt of the chief perſons employed in the different departments of the government; I ſhall now come to a nearer

nearer view of ſome of thoſe with whom I have the honour of being acquainted; and, that this taſk may be performed with proper decorum, I ſhall begin with their ſerene highneſſes.

The preſent duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz, Adolph Frederic IV. is twenty-eight years of age, very comely in his perſon, of a middling ſtature, well proportioned, and ſtrong-built. He is of a fair complexion, an oval face, and rather lean than corpulent. His aſpect is ſweet and engaging, and he wears his own hair, of a light brown. He has a ſpacious forehead, lively blue eyes, and the other lineaments extremely regular. In his deportment he is graceful and majeſtic, yet behaving towards thoſe who approach him with great affability. Tho' he looks very healthy, he is rather of a delicate conſtitution, and cannot endure much fatigue. In his diet he is regular and ſparing, and ſeldom drinks above a pint of wine. He ſets an example of chaſtity, very rare in the preſent age, never indulging himſelf in amours or intrigues, or gratifying his paſſion at the expence of innocence and virtue. This is the more extraordinary, as he is in the bloom of life, and not inſenſible to the charms of beauty. The truth is, he is ſincere in his religion, and thinks it the duty of a prince to ſet a good example to his ſubjects. On ſundays and feſtivals he aſſiſts at Divine Service

with the utmoſt devotion, and all his houſehold imitate ſo good a pattern. Yet he is quite free from affectation and bigotry, has no prejudice on account of difference of opinion, and is a declared enemy of perſecution. But he is no enemy to innocent pleaſure; for he is fond of balls and aſſemblies, where he dances and plays at cards with the ladies, and appears highly delighted with their company. His magnificence is without profuſeneſs, and his entertainments without reſtraint. I have often heard him ſay, *Je ne gêne perſonne, & je ne veux pas etre gêné.* As Knight of the Garter he always wears his blue ribbon, and he is likewiſe Knight of the order of the White Eagle. His table is open to the nobility of the country, as well as to foreigners of any diſtinction. Thus he lives like a generous prince, not inacceſſible to his ſubjects, but diffuſing his goodneſs, and delighting in hoſpitality and beneficence: yet his finances are managed with the greateſt order, and he has the happineſs of being aſſiſted by miniſters perfectly acquainted with political œconomy. Poſſeſſed of too much ſenſe to value himſelf merely for his high birth, and ſenſible that *generari & naſci à principibus fortuitum eſt*; * he is the fartheſt of all princes from any appearance of vanity, or diſdaining to be tainted with a vice

* Tacit.

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inherent in none but weak and ſuperficial minds.

No pains have been ſpared to complete this prince's education. He is poſſeſſed of very good natural parts, a quick apprehenſion, ſound judgment, and comprehenſive memory. He ſtudied ſome time at the univerſity of Gripſwald, where he was raiſed to the dignity of rector; on which occaſion he made a moſt elegant Latin oration*. Under the direction of baron Dewitz, he improved himſelf afterwards in foreign travel. At Paris the celebrated abbé Nollet read lectures of experimental philoſophy to him; and from other inſtructors he imbibed a true taſte in the polite arts. He is maſter of ſeveral languages; the French in particular he ſpeaks with great purity and eaſe, and is well verſed in the Italian. He uſes very few diverſions, neither does he ſeem to take ſufficient exerciſe for his health; ſeldom going a-hunting or ſhooting, but contenting himſelf with taking the air in his chariot. On ſuch occaſions he makes no parade, being only attended by one or two Huſſars. His chief diverſion indeed is in doing good, in expanding himſelf in acts of beneficence towards his

* This I have by me, and am indebted for it to baron Dewitz.

ſubjects, whoſe happineſs ſeems to conſtitute the ſole object of his ambition. They repay him with the utmoſt gratitude; he is poſſeſſed of their love and affection; and never prince and people lived in greater harmony.

His manner of life is pretty uniform; he riſes about ſeven; breakfaſts a little after eight; walks in the garden, or rides out in his chariot, till ten; at which time he goes to the Parade, where he ſees his ſoldiers exerciſe and mount guard: from thence he retires to his cabinet, where he either reads or confers with his miniſters till twelve; dreſſes afterwards, and comes to the preſence-chamber a little before one; and preciſely at one ſits down to dinner, with the princeſs his ſiſter. About three he retires, and perhaps takes another airing in his chariot, or ſpends the afternoon in his cabinet, till ſeven; then he enters the preſence-chamber, where he diverts himſelf at cards. Before ſupper he generally converſes half an hour with baron Dewitz, about buneſs; and at nine he ſups. At ten he riſes from table; and, after half an hour's converſation with the ladies and gentlemen, he withdraws to his apartment.

The duke's ſiſter, princeſs Chriſtina, is in her one and thirtieth year; tall and genteel in her perſon, round-faced, large blue eyes, and brown complexion. She is extremely well

ſhaped,

ſhaped, of an engaging carriage, and a moſt graceful figure; but a little marked with the ſmall-pox. Her conſtitution is rather delicate; but ſhe is very good-tempered, and endowed with ſuch an affability as wins the hearts of all thoſe who have the honour of approaching her perſon. She ſpeaks good French, and with great fluency. Her countenance is dignified with an air of grandeur ſuitable to her rank, which ſhe tempers in converſation with a becoming ſweetneſs: her words expreſs her judgment and ſound ſenſe; and good-breeding accompanies all her actions.

Weaned from the vanities of the age, ſhe diſcovers her high birth only by ſolid piety and ſurpriſing goodneſs of heart. The improvement of her mind has been ever her chief ſtudy; ſo that, without flattery, I may affirm her to be adorned with every accompliſhment ſuited to her ſex. She dines conſtantly with the duke her brother, but does not come down to ſupper, except on aſſembly-nights, which are Wedneſdays and Sundays. Few ladies dance with ſo good an air as her highneſs; but ſhe confines herſelf now to minuets, being afraid of over-heating herſelf with country dances. On aſſembly-nights, after ſhe has danced a minuet, ſhe plays at whiſt; and generally madam Winnemer, madam Barnewitz, and baron Dewitz are of the party. Her high-

neſs has been honoured with the Ruſſian order of St. Catharine, the enſign of which, being a yellow ribbon, ſhe conſtantly wears. She generally takes an airing in her chariot once a day, attended by madam Winnemer, who ſeems to be her favourite. She reads a good deal, and has lately begun to learn Engliſh. In ſhort, her graceful and polite behaviour cannot be expreſſed; like her brother, ſhe has not the leaſt pride; nor does ſhe affect any pre-eminence, tho', beſides her birth, highly entitled to it by the luſtre of her princely virtues.

Baron Zeſterfleth, marſhal of the court, has, on account of his age and employment, the priority of rank; but in power and intereſt baron Dewitz is the firſt miniſter, being poſſeſſed of the chief direction of public affairs. M. de Zeſterfleth is deſcended from a noble family in the duchy of Bremen, who have long made a conſiderable figure in that country. He entered early in life into the ſervice of the court of Mecklenburg Strelitz, and was governor to the preſent duke's father, Charles Lewis Frederic, with whom he lived afterwards at Mirow. You may judge from thence that M. de Zeſterfleth is not young; he appears to be turned of ſeventy. In his youth he muſt have been a very handſome man, and he has ſtill the remains of an elegant form. He is tall and genteel in his perſon, and ſtoops but

very little for a man of his years. His conſtitution is rather delicate; but he preſerves his health pretty well by great regularity and temperance. One would imagine from his hectic cough, that he could not live long; and when I have expreſſed my uneaſineſs at this ſymptom, he anſwered, it did not ſignify, for he had had it theſe twenty years. His complexion is fair, and his aſpect grave, bordering in ſome meaſure upon ſeverity. But this is only in appearance; for no man can be more affable and obliging than M. de Zeſterfleth, when you come to converſe with him. He is a very good ſcholar without any mixture of pedantry, and a ſincere chriſtian without the leaſt leaven of diſſimulation. By his office he is led into all the ceremonial functions of a courtly life; yet he is a philoſopher in his diſpoſition, and a man of true ſolidity. His innocence of manners is ſuch as one would hardly expect to ſee amidſt the pleaſures of a court. He is up at four in ſummer, ſhaves himſelf without water, and never makes uſe of a glaſs. No ſervant ever ſaw him in an undreſs. He is ſo modeſt that in converſing with the ladies he will not permit them to touch his hands; and when they attempt it out of pleaſantry, he ſecures them in his breeches or quits the field. His integrity is almoſt unparalleled, and no man living can

have a greater contempt for money. The ducheſs of Mecklenburg, her preſent majeſty's aunt, knowing that he had a fancy for a horſe of ſome particular breed, and would not accept of it as a preſent, ordered a perſon in her confidence to buy one, and deliver it to his groom, with directions to ſay, that it was a ſtray horſe. M. de Zeſterfleth believed the ſtory, but had the horſe cried; and as he was not owned, every body concluded that the baron had a right to keep him; but he was of a different opinion himſelf: the horſe, he ſaid, did not belong to him, and not having a particular owner, was become of courſe *publici juris*; therefore he would ſell him and diſtribute the money among the poor; which he did accordingly. What think you of this inſtance of diſintereſtedneſs and integrity? M. de Zeſterfleth now reaps the reward of his integrity; he is beloved by the duke for the long ſervices done to his family; and he is revered and eſteemed by the public for thoſe virtues which have adorned him in every ſtage of life, and will accompany him to the grave.

Baron Dewitz is a member of the privy-council, and firſt director or lord of the treaſury. This nobleman is deſcended from one of the moſt ancient and illuſtrious families in the duchies of Mecklenburg and Po-

Pomerania. The name is derived from the lordſhip or manor of Dewitz, ſituated on the other ſide of the town of Stargard. His anceſtors for ſome time enjoyed the county of Furſtenberg, which was erected by Albert I. duke of Mecklenburg, in favour of the two brothers Otho and Ulric of Dewitz, in company with whom duke Albert had been educated. The county of Furſtenberg was then of conſiderable extent, containing Strelitz, Furſtenberg, Konau, Arenſberg, Wuſtrow, Droſedow, and ſome other places. Strelitz is indebted to this family for its municipal exiſtence, ſince before this period it was only an inſignificant village. The two counts founded a new town on this ſpot, and favoured it with the privilege of wearing their own arms, which are three golden cups. But the dignity of counts of Furſtenberg did not remain long in the family: in the ſpace of twenty years the indiſcretion of the two brothers James and Gerrard Dewitz proved fatal to themſelves and their poſterity. Theſe noblemen were poſſeſſed of eſtates which lay partly in Mecklenburg, and partly in Pomerania, and conſequently were held of different ſovereigns. A war happening to break out between the two dukes, the brothers abovementioned unfortunately preferred the ſide of Pomerania. Duke Albert reminded them of their obligation on account of the new

dignity which he had conferred on their family; but his remonſtrance had no effect; they took the field in conjunction with the duke of Pomerania. In reſentment for their behaviour, duke Albert ſeized the county of Furſtenberg, and ſtripped the two brothers of their new dignity. The family, however, are ſtill poſſeſſed of conſiderable lands in Mecklenburg and Pomerania; particularly in the latter they have the ancient eſtate of Daber, which the Pomeranian dukes granted them, as an indemnity for the loſs of Furſtenberg. From this place they aſſume the title of *Schloſs-geſſeſſene*, uſually conferred on ſuch as have a moated ſeat, encircled with battlements. There are ſeveral gentlemen *ſubfeudarii*, or rear vaſſals to this noble family; one of whom claims the right of being elected provincial counſellor in Pomerania. The houſe of Dewitz hath alſo produced many illuſtrious generals, three of whom ſignalized themſelves in the preſent century in the Pruſſian ſervice, another in Denmark, and another in the Imperial army ſome time before the Reformation; the laſt was alſo honoured with the order of the Golden Fleece. The ſame family has likewiſe given birth to many able miniſters and ſtateſmen, among whom the nobleman ſo highly reſpected at this court deſerves not the laſt place.

Baron Dewitz is of a tall ſtature, thin habit of body, and fair complexion. He has a round face,

face, blue eyes, and noble preſence. His deportment is engaging, mixed with good-nature and affability. He is lively without levity, enterprizing without temerity, ſober without parſimony, and religious without any bigotry or prejudice. Though a courtier, he is an enemy to flattery, and a ſtrict obſerver of his word. In his air and in his actions there is a frankneſs and candour extremely engaging. His behaviour ſhews him the man of quality, and it is impoſſible to ſurpaſs him in politeneſs. In literature and the fine arts he has a very good taſte, and been ever ready to give all encouragement to men of learning. *Carmen amat quiſquis carmine digna gerit.* His ſtudies he performed at the univerſity of Jena, where he diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his application and abilities. When he was only a ſtudent, he publiſhed a ſhort diſcourſe in the Italian tongue, on the privileges of the ladies of Mecklenburg *: a diſcourſe admired for its elegance. Beſides German and Italian, he expreſſes himſelf well in ſeveral other languages, particularly Engliſh and French. His natural parts he improved by foreign travel, when he accompanied the preſent duke to Gripſwald, and afterwards in his tour through France and Italy. Upon the

* *I Principali Privilegj delle gentil donne di Mecklenburgo.*

happy

happy nuptials of her majeſty, he came over as envoy extraordinary to the king of Great Britain from both the courts of Mecklenburg; and after diſcharging that function with dignity and ſucceſs, he was recalled to his own country, in order to take upon him the adminiſtration of the finances. While he reſided in England, he ſpent great part of his time in the ſtudy of trade and manufactures; and the knowledge which he acquired in thoſe branches, he now moſt ſucceſsfully applies to the improvement of his own country, and the ſervice of the duke his maſter. When he came to the adminiſtration there was ſcarce a manufacture in the country; but ſince that time he has erected many. The duke's troops are now cloathed from head to foot with the manufactures of his own territories. Fabrics of cloth, leather, caps, ſtockings, &c. have been erected in divers places, all owing to the baron's aſſiduity and encouragement. Beſides the promoting of manufactures, he is employed in draining lakes, or in ſuch acts of cultivation as meliorate the lands and improve vegetation. In ſhort, he is indefatigable in his department to ſuch a degree, that he ſeems to have impaired his health, which at beſt is not extraordinary, being of a tender conſtitution. As he has made himſelf maſter of every thing that forms the miniſter, the duke places an entire confidence in him, which ſo far from abuſing, he renders ſubſervient to his great

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aim of doing all the good he can, and promoting the real intereſts of his prince and country.

Baron Bulow, maſter of the horſe, is deſcended from a very noble family in Mecklenburg. He is of a middling ſtature, comely features, and dark complexion. His inclination led him early into the army, and for many years he was in the Imperial ſervice. He made ſeveral campaigns in Italy, where he diſtinguiſhed himſelf at the engagement near Bitonto; he was afterwards dangerouſly wounded in Bohemia, at the famous battle of Czaſlaw. At length age and infirmities obliged him to quit the army, and retire to his own country, where he obtained of the court of Strelitz this eaſy and agreeable employment. Bleſt with an excellent wife, he has two ſons and three daughters. One of his ſons is equerry to prince Erneſt; another, I think, is at his ſtudies. His daughters are all happily married; the eldeſt in Franconia, to the count of Lichtenſtein; another in Strelitz, to captain Norman; and a third alſo in Strelitz, to baron Oertz. The two latter are among the chief ornaments of this town. Baron Bulow is a valuable gentleman, has a generous ſoul, great politeneſs, with a readineſs to oblige. He ſpeaks but broken French, yet is fond of expreſſing himſelf in that language. He fills his poſt with great honour,

and

and ſeems to have no ſmall ſhare in the confidence of his prince.

I come now to the court ladies. Madam de Koſboth is deſcended from a noble family in Saxony, of the name of Keller, and was born at Campen in that electorate. Early in life ſhe entered into the ſervice of the princeſs of Zerbſt, and was afterwards married to a nobleman of Mecklenburg, viz. M. de Koſboth, great huntſman and gentleman of the bed-chamber to the duke of Strelitz. She has been ſometime a widow, but continues to live at court, where ſhe is beloved and greatly reſpected. Though ſomewhat advanced in years, ſhe has ſtill a great ſhare of charms. Her form is genteel and elegant, her features regular, her mien and air engaging. She is courteous and affable, extremely good-humoured, and a perfect miſtreſs of politeneſs. Long trained to a court, ſhe treads that critical ſtage with eaſe; and in all her actions diſplays her breeding, good-ſenſe, and knowledge of the world.

Mademoiſelle de Rauchbar was born of a noble family, in the principality of Waldeck; her father was preſident of the colleges, a poſt which he filled with great integrity and honour. The preſent lady, his daughter, entered into the ſervice of the grand-mother of the reigning duke of Strelitz, and afterwards was near the princeſs of Schwartzburg, ſiſter

ter to the ſaid duke's grand-mother. Hence you may gather that this lady cannot be in the bloom of life; I believe ſhe is not much more than ſeventy, yet ſhe is ſtill mademoiſelle; and ſo ſhe would continue to be, were ſhe an hundred, and never married. Time has committed ſome ravages on her features, which twenty or thirty years ago were perhaps more attracting. She is tall, in good plight, of a brown complexion, and healthy countenance. She has qualities far ſuperior to beauty; qualities which will never fade, but laſt till the diſſolution of the frame they animate. Her mind is adorned with every valuable accompliſhment. No lady can have more true piety, nor be a greater obſerver of every duty of religion. Diſengaged from all trifles, ſhe may be really deemed a pattern of modeſty and goodneſs. She is extremely civil and obliging, and far more chearful than one could expect from a lady of her years. I have the pleaſure of playing with her almoſt every night at whiſt; and it is impoſſible to expreſs with how much temper and good-humour ſhe acts her part. The duke himſelf, though at another table, cannot forbear laughing, when he hears her cry out, *hubpſch kerles*, that is, *pretty fellows!* a certain ſign that ſhe has been ſo fortunate as to get honours. Though it be not cuſtomary to drink healths, ſhe generally breaks

breaks through the rule to drink to me; and I get as near to her as I can at table, to enjoy her innocent and agreeable converſation. She is an enemy to idleneſs, and the miſemployment of time. I never go into her apartment, but I find her maids at ſome needle or embroidery-work, in which ſhe ſeems to be very ingenious. Though ſhe uſes little or no exerciſe, only coming down ſtairs twice a day to her meals, yet ſhe has very good health, and eats with an excellent appetite. This I have often wondered at; and it can be owing to nothing elſe but the goodneſs of the air. In ſhort, mademoiſelle de Rauchbar is, in my opinion, a no ſmall ornament of this court.

Mademoiſelle Dewitz is ſiſter to my friend the baron; ſo that I have no occaſion to ſay any thing of her family. She ſeems to be about thirty-three years old, of a middling ſize, but rather too much *embonpoint*. Her complexion is fair and delicate, her features pretty regular, and a perpetual ſmile in her countenance. I really believe ſhe is one of the chearfulleſt women living. No lady is better bred, nor behaves with greater politeneſs. The ſweetneſs of her temper renders her extremely amiable; and in this, as well as in ſeveral other reſpects, ſhe greatly reſembles her brother. She has a noble air and mien, and a gaiety of diſpoſition, entirely adapted to the pleaſures of

of the court. Yet ſhe has not neglected to improve her mind, being miſtreſs of many accompliſhments, which render her converſation extremely entertaining. I have the honour of playing at cards with her every evening, in the ſame party with mademoiſelle Rauchbar and madam Koſboth; and who ſo happy as I, when with this agreeable ſett!

Mademoiſelle Seltzer is maid of honour to the duke's ſiſter, and was formerly governeſs to that princeſs and to our moſt gracious queen. Hence you may perceive that this mademoiſelle, no more than my favourite miſs Rauchbar, is not very young. I take her by conjecture, for one cannot aſk a lady's age, to be at leaſt turned of fifty. She is deſcended from a noble family in the country of Wirtenberg, and entered early into the ſervice of the mother of the reigning duke of Strelitz. As the princeſs does not come out of her apartment in the evening, miſs Seltzer ſtays to keep her highneſs company; ſo that I have not an opportunity of converſing with her ſo often as with the other ladies. Her perſon is not much in her favour, being rather low ſized. This deficiency is amply compenſated by the good qualities of her mind, which endear her to all her acquaintance. It may be truly ſaid, that ſhe is the pink of politeneſs and complaiſance: I ſcarce ever ſaw her

her equal; yet there is no affectation in her; ſhe really means to oblige, and the civility of her deportment is founded in ſincerity. She is endowed with all moral virtues, with mildneſs and goodneſs of heart beyond expreſſion. The charms of a court have not the leaſt hold on her mind; true piety and religion engroſs all her actions. Next to God, her affections are devoted to the princeſs, whom ſhe ſerves with attachment and fidelity, and who has a great regard for her virtues.

M. Seip, chancellery counſellor, and archivarius, is one of the moſt reſpectable perſons at this court. He is a native of the principality of Waldeck, and of a very good family. For ſome time he reſided at Gottingen, as profeſſor extraordinary of civil law, from whence he removed to Roſtock, where he figured in the ſame capacity. His abilities raiſed him to the honourable poſt of ſyndic to the ſtates of the province; and at length to the employment which he now enjoys under this government. He ſeems to be about forty years old, a very handſome perſon, fine open countenance, florid complexion, and moſt agreeable carriage. He is extremely polite and affable, has an air of probity and frankneſs, an extraordinary vivacity, great facility of expreſſing himſelf, with an uncommon quickneſs of conception.

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The French language is as familiar to him, as if he were a native of that kingdom. In moſt branches of polite literature he is extremely well verſed; but he excels chiefly in the knowledge of the Imperial law, and the municipal inſtitutions of this country. His aſſiduity and addreſs in buſineſs have procured him the duke's eſteem, ſo as to be appointed commiſſioner every year from his highneſs to the diet or ſtates of the province. There he exerts thoſe abilities which have rendered him ſo conſpicuous, a manly eloquence, a ſurpriſing calmneſs of temper, and a conſummate knowledge of public buſineſs. One of my firſt viſits was to this gentleman; and the reception I met with was extremely polite. His lady is a moſt agreeable well-bred woman; by whom he has ſeveral children. His eldeſt ſon, about ten years of age, is a ſurpriſing genius, ſpeaks French perfectly well, underſtands the claſſics, and has acquired ſeveral other accompliſhments under his father's inſtruction.

I have already given you a ſlight account of M. Reinhard; you ſhall now have the figure at full length. My intimacy with this gentleman is very great, and I am proud of the honour of his acquaintance. He was born at Strelitz, and his father was a civilian and court counſellor. I cannot tell his age; but he ſeems to be near forty. He has another brother, a very polite ingenious gentle-

man, who has juſt obtained a civil employment under his highneſs at Ratzeburg. His ſtature is about the middle ſize, his complexion brown, and he is marked with the ſmall-pox: he has a lively eye; but upon the whole rather a ſenſible than engaging phyſiognomy. From the aſſiduity of his ſtudies he ſeems to have contracted an air of ſtiffneſs and auſterity; yet when you come to converſe with him, you find him open and complaiſant, and in every reſpect the polite gentleman. His health does not ſeem to be of the beſt, for which reaſon he rides out often; and is remarkably ſober and abſtemious. Beſides the learned languages, he ſpeaks moſt of the modern, German, Dutch, Engliſh, French, Spaniſh, and Italian. There are few perſons in Germany, or perhaps in Europe, of ſuch ſolid extenſive learning, having early diſtinguiſhed himſelf in polite literature, philoſophy, and juriſprudence. His celebrated treatiſe of Optimiſm gained him the prize of a gold medal from the Academy of Sciences at Berlin: the medal is one of the largeſt ever given on ſuch occaſion, being in value about 25 l. ſterling. He wrote a great deal in the *Acta Eruditorum*, and his ſtrictures have been reſpected as maſter-pieces of criticiſm. I ſhall give you a liſt of his printed pieces, which have been all received with great applauſe, and from whence

whence you may form ſome idea of his conſummate abilities.

1. A Diſſertation on Optimiſm, which won the prize of the Royal Academy of Berlin in 1755. (In French.)

2. A Collection of German poems, printed the firſt time at Gottingen in 1756, and the ſecond time at Roſtock in 1760.

3. A Collection of German Poems, printed at Butzow in 1762.

4. Reflections on Liberty, printed at Berlin in 1762. (In French.)

5. Metaphyſical Inquiries on the Laws of Motion. Printed at Berlin in 1764. (In French.)

6. Three Collections of Miſcellanies in Proſe and Verſe. (In French.)

7. Reflections on the Doctrine of the Roman Catholics, concerning the Authority of the Church, extracted from a Latin Programma of Dr. Cruſius at Leipſic. (In French.)

8. Critical Remarks on Profeſſor Nettleblad's Syſtem of Poſitive Laws, at Halle. (In German.)

9. A Collection of Polemical Tracts, relating to the Diſſertation on Optimiſm. (In German.)

10. A Collection of Philoſophical Tracts publiſhed in 1753 and 1754. (In German.)

11. A great variety of Tracts and Memoirs, publiſhed in the *Acta Eruditorum*, the *Journal Encyclopedique*, and ſeveral other Journals and literary Gazettes, in Germany.

M. Scheven, counſellor of the Exchequer, is a gentleman ſomewhat advanced in years, but chearful and facetious, and for his generoſity does honour to Mecklenburg. His perſon is comely and agreeable; and when he was young, he muſt have been a very handſome man. He lives in one of the beſt houſes in Strelitz, the corner of Palace-ſtreet, where he likes to ſee his friends, and gives them a hearty welcome. By his lady, who is a moſt agreeable perſon, he is bleſt with a numerous iſſue. Having been often preſſed to come and ſee him, I went twice or thrice; but I muſt confeſs I dread to ſet foot any more within his threſhold. No gentleman in this town has ſuch a variety of excellent wines, and none more free and liberal of them. I think I reckoned fourteen or fifteen different ſorts; and he is uneaſy unleſs you drink of each. Beſides, it is difficult to get away; ſo that his hoſpitality is often productive of intemperance. I love and reſpect M. Scheven, but ſhun his houſe, and content myſelf with ſeeing him at court, where he frequently dines.

M. Gerling, Chancery-counſellor, is a handſome man, but ſomewhat too corpulent. He is reckoned a profound civilian, and thoroughly acquainted with the municipal laws of this province. In his department he makes a conſiderable figure; in converſation rather cold than entertaining; but he

is obliging and complaiſant, of a very humane diſpoſition, and, upon the whole, a man of great honour and integrity.

His brother, the rev. M. Gerling, is rector of the pariſh of New Strelitz. In temper there is a great difference between the two brothers; the rector being of a chearful, gay diſpoſition, and the lawyer very grave and reſerved. The rector is a man of genteel deportment, ſound learning, and exemplary piety. Both the brothers dine occaſionally at court, and I am very happy in the pleaſure of their converſation.

M. Winnemer, counſellor of the Exchequer, is eminent in his profeſſion. His perſon is not the moſt ſtriking, but his manners are polite, and ſhew him the complete gentleman. In ſenſe and learning he is not deficient. Public buſineſs he underſtands extremely well, and may be depended upon for his judgment and ſolidity. He is a man of very good fortune, and is building a new houſe, which when finiſhed, will be the beſt in the whole town of Strelitz. His lady, madam Winnemer, is a moſt agreeable, well-bred woman. Her ſize is rather low, but ſhe is of a genteel ſhape and appearance. Her complexion is ſomewhat florid, and ſhe ſeems to have generally a bluſh in her cheeks. In affability and politeneſs ſhe has few equals; and not many her ſuperiors in underſtanding and good ſenſe. She has

the happineſs of being a favourite of the princeſs, who is a very good judge of merit. Her highneſs ſeldom takes an airing without this lady, or plays at cards, but ſhe is of the party. This confidence ſhe never abuſes, nor does ſhe ſeem to be elated by courtly favour. Hence is ſhe reſpected by every body for her modeſty, good nature, and other virtuous accompliſhments.

Baron Gentzkow, firſt gentleman of the bedchamber, is a tall likely man, of a ruddy complexion, and robuſt conſtitution. His manners are polite, his addreſs eaſy, his air and mien becoming a man of quality. He does not ſeem to have ſhining parts, but a great ſhare of good ſenſe, and ſolidity of judgment. He is the fondeſt of exerciſe of any gentleman I have ſeen in this country, few days paſſing but he rides out on horſeback. Court attendance does not appear to be his taſte; for he likes neither cards nor dancing, and in ſhort none but manly exerciſes. His converſation is ſenſible, confined to few words, but thoſe weighed in the ſcale of ſolidity.

Dr. Hempel is the duke's phyſician extraordinary, with the title of *Land Phyſicus*, or phyſician to the country; that is, the duke allows him a ſalary for giving his advice and aſſiſtance to his neceſſitous ſubjects. The doctor is a moſt amiable gentleman, between fifty and ſixty, of an agreeable aſpect, and thin

habit of body. He is facetious in converſation, ever cheatful, and of a moſt happy temper. His abilities as a phyſician are univerſally allowed, and have raiſed him to a high degree of eſteem both with the ſovereign and his ſubjects. His library is copious and well choſen, particularly with regard to books in his own profeſſion. No man can be more tender and aſſiduous in the care of his patients; and he is ſaid to have the happineſs of being very ſucceſsful in the healing art. By his lady, who has been ſometime deceaſed, he has an only daughter, of whom he is moſt paſſionately fond. She is indeed very deſerving of his affection, being poſſeſſed of every good quality that can endear her to a parent. As to her perſon, ſhe is rather under-ſized, and has a little too much *embonpoint*, otherwiſe a fine young lady; for ſhe has a very good face, a ſkin like poliſhed ivory, lovely black eyes, and a ſettled ſmile on her countenance. Her temper is the happieſt in the world, and no child can be more dutiful to a father. Her acquired accompliſhments are great; ſhe dances gracefully, ſings well, and plays admirably on the harpſichord. I have had the pleaſure of viſiting her more than once in company with M. Reinhard, who attends her with ſome aſſiduity; and if I can judge from circumſtances (for he has ſaid nothing to me himſelf) he pays his addreſſes to this young lady.

Baron Boehmen, gentleman of the bed-chamber, is of a noble family, much reſpected in this country. Few gentlemen have a more graceful figure, handſomer features, or a more noble carriage. None ſurpaſs him in activity, whether in dancing, fencing, riding, or any other manly exerciſe. He is very good-natured and obliging, and of a moſt chearful lively diſpoſition; but he has the misfortune of labouring under a heſitation of ſpeech, which greatly diminiſhes the pleaſure one would otherwiſe enjoy in the company of ſo ſenſible and agreeable a gentleman.

M. Koſboth, a gentleman of the bed-chamber, is nephew to madam Koſboth, one of the ladies of honour. He is a young gentleman of a very amiable diſpoſition, but remarkably modeſt, and of few words. His ſtature is low, his complexion fair, his conſtitution delicate. He does not want ſenſe, but it is obſcured by his taciturnity; for had he but a little more aſſurance, he would make a much better figure. Not long ago he went over to England, where he learned the language, which he ſpeaks tolerably well. His lady is low-ſized, like himſelf, but makes up in good-nature and agreeable accompliſhments, what ſhe wants in ſtature. She has a ſweet pretty face, a fine complexion, and a moſt winning carriage. Upon the whole, they

ſeem

ſeem to be a happy couple, and formed both in body and mind for each other.

Baron Pleſſe is captain of the guards, and equerry to the duke. His family is one of the moſt eminent in Mecklenburg. In perſon he is very agreeable, being of a good ſize, fair complexion, regular features, and a manly countenance. He is reckoned a very able officer, and few ſurpaſs him in courage. A vein of good-humour is diffuſed through all his actions, and he is a true friend to ſocial mirth. I reckon him about five or ſix-and-thirty, tho' his complexion gives him ſtill a younger appearance. He accompanied prince Charles of Mecklenburg into England, where he learnt a little of the language; and he afterwards went over with the ſame prince into Portugal, towards the end of the laſt war. Upon his return he was preferred to the poſt he now holds, the duties of which he fulfils with the utmoſt exactneſs.

Baron Oertz, gentleman of the bed-chamber, is deſcended from one of the beſt and moſt ancient families in this country. He ſeems to be about five-and-thirty, is rather under-ſized, and marked with the ſmall-pox. But he has an air of probity and candour equal to any advantage of external appearance. In his behaviour he is affable and genteel. He talks a good deal, and likes company and cards. His houſe is one of the beſt in the town,

town, open to his friends, whom he treats with liberality and elegance. He underſtands ſeveral languages, particularly French and Italian, but is not equally fluent in ſpeaking them. Good-nature and affability are his characteriſtics; and by what I can obſerve, his heart is ſuſceptible of the higheſt ſentiments of friendſhip. Providence has bleſſed him with a very amiable lady, a daughter of the baron Bulow, by whom he has ſeveral children.

There is a younger brother of baron Oertz, one of the beſt natured gentlemen in the world, and poſſeſſed of many amiable qualities: Affable and generous to a very high degree, open and communicative, and endeavouring to oblige, as much as lies in his power. His ſize is rather diminutive; but he has a handſome face, a noble air, and an uncommon ſhare of vivacity. The French and Italian languages are quite familiar to him; he dances, fences, and rides well; and is thoroughly qualified for courtly employment. As there is no vacancy here at preſent, he talks of ſetting out very ſoon for Zell, in order to enter into the ſervice of prince Erneſt of Mecklenburg. I heartily wiſh him ſucceſs in whatever he undertakes; and if integrity, generoſity, and honour are any recommendation in this age, he will certainly meet with encouragement.

Baron

Baron Norman is gentleman of the bed-chamber, and captain of the guards; the nobility of his deſcent is the leaſt part of his merit. He is about forty, of a handſome ſize and make, has a manly countenance, and engaging deportment. Generous and free in his diſpoſition, he takes a pleaſure in ſerving his friends. In temper he is very happy; expreſſing the ſerenity of his mind by a conſtant ſmile in his countenance. His conſtitution ſeems to be very robuſt; and he is a great diſciplinarian, having been in the ſervice of the king of Pruſſia, that celebrated maſter of the military art. His good conduct and abilities have greatly recommended him to the duke, who ſeldom goes on any party of pleaſure, but the baron muſt be one. He generally plays at cards in the evening with his highneſs; and indeed, no officer can be more deſerving of a prince's favour. He has the happineſs of being married to an accompliſhed lady, a daughter of baron Bulow, and ſiſter of madam Oertz: he has had ſome children; and is likely to be father of a numerous family.

The ladies of the two laſt-mentioned noblemen are two ſiſters, whoſe perſonal charms would do honour to any court in Europe. The elder is madam Norman, the younger madam Oertz. They are daughters of baron Bulow. Nature has beſtowed on theſe ladies every charm, every grace to adorn their perſons. There is a ſweetneſs painted in their faces, and diffuſed

thro'

thro' all their actions. Their ſtature is tall, their ſhape elegant, their frame delicate, and their features exactly regular. Their ſkin is of a lovely white with a roſy tint; their eyes animated with a celeſtial brightneſs. But beauty is not their principal ornament; they have ſtudied to improve their minds, and to acquire every amiable accompliſhment. Their mien and their carriage are noble, and their converſation lively. They dance with an incomparable air, and attract every eye by their graceful movements. Such is the reſemblance between them, as that between two full-blown roſes, or two ſtars in the firmament. I might ſay of them what the famous ſignor Zappi ſays of two nymphs, that were they to enter into a competition with Venus on mount Ida, Paris would be confounded, and either divide the apple among them, or the cauſe muſt remain undecided.

Due ninfe emule al volto, e alla favella
Muovon del pari il pié, muovono il canto,
Vaghe coſi, che L'una all altra a canto
Roſa con roſa par, ſtella con ſtella.
Non ſai, ſe quella a queſta, o queſta a quella
Toglia, o non toglia di beltade il vanto;
E puoi ben dir: null' altra è bella tanto;
Mà non puoi dir di lor; queſta è piu bella.

Se innanzi al paſtorello in Ida aſſiſo
Simil coppia giungea; Vener non fora
La vincitrice al paragon del viſo,
Ma qual di queſte avrebbe vinto allora?
Nol ſo: Paride il pomo avria diviſo;
O la gran lite penderebbe ancora.

But although the reſemblance be ſo very ſtrong, they have ſtill ſome diſtinguiſhing features. Madam Norman is a little taller than her ſiſter Oertz, with more colour, and a better complexion. Madam Oertz is more delicately ſhaped, and more lively in her talk; but has not ſo languiſhing a look, nor ſo winning a countenance. Oertz is agreeable, Norman lovely; Oertz is ſparkling, Norman ſolid; Oertz is gay, Norman good-humoured; Oertz is complaiſant, Norman affectionate; Oertz is ſprightly and careleſs, Norman ſenſible and judicious; Oertz affects a ſuperiority from her charms, Norman appears ignorant of her perfections. The one ſtrikes you with her vivacity, the other charms you with her judgment; the one raiſes your ſurprize, the other gains your eſteem; you are amuſed in company with one, you are in raptures with the other; on one you look with complacency, on the other with admiration; one attracts the eye, the other affects the heart; one amuſes as a portrait, the other triumphs as a beauty.

There

There are ſeveral other ladies at Strelitz, admired for their charms and good ſenſe by all thoſe who have the honour of their acquaintance.

Madam de Barnewitz is a widow lady, who came lately to Strelitz, at the duke's particular invitation. She is daughter to the count of Schulenburg, and niece to the counteſs of Delitz, in London, a near relation of lady Cheſterfield. She is middle-aged, has large but agreeable features, and a graceful preſence. Her complexion is florid, and ſhe is rather too replete: but her good-nature and affability render her truly eſtimable, and prove her the woman of quality. I have often experienced her civility, in ſhewing me her cabinet of curioſities, enriched with a choice collection of Greek and Roman medals.

Madam Voſs is a lady ſomewhat advanced in years, but more in good ſenſe and ſolidity. Her ſize and ſhape are genteel, her manner engaging, and in her youth ſhe muſt have had charms, which are now on the decay. But her underſtanding and good ſenſe make her ample amends. She has had the misfortune of being deeply involved in law-ſuits with her relations, which have impaired her fortune, without diſturbing the tranquility of her mind. Her daughter madam R. is married to a nobleman in Berlin, from whence ſhe

makes

makes frequent excurſions to ſee her mother. She is a tall handſome lady, very ſprightly and gay, and poſſeſſed of a great ſtock of wit and good-humour. The duke ſeems to have a great regard for her. She was juſt come off her journey one evening, and intended to return the next day to Berlin. His highneſs was informed of it, and invited her to come to court. She begged to be excuſed on account of her dreſs, which was only a riding-habit; the duke made anſwer, her dreſs ſhould be overlooked, and ſhe was obliged to make her appearance. His highneſs chatted and laughed with her afterwards the whole evening, much beyond his uſual degree of gaiety.

M. Jacobi, a learned civilian, and member of the privy-council, is a very old ſervant of this government; but infirmities and age have quite diſabled him from farther attendance. He ſtill continues to enjoy his ſalary, as a reward for paſt ſervices.

There is a gentleman employed by this court to write a news-paper, in the nature of our Evening Chronicles. His name is Krohn, and he comes from the Palatinate. He is ſaid to be of a good family, and has undergone many viciſſitudes as a projector, in ſeveral parts of Germany. At length he offered his ſervice at this court, and baron Dewitz pitched upon him as a proper perſon to manage a news-paper, which comes out twice a week. He is a jolly portly man,

man, of a florid complexion. His learning is not contemptible, and he has a great deal of ready wit. He is very fond of talking Latin, but I diſlike to hear him, becauſe he expreſſes himſelf with ſuch barbarouſneſs and inelegance. However, I am much obliged to him; for he is very complaiſant; and often furniſhes me with anecdotes. I call him the Intelligencer, and ſhall more than once have occaſion to mention him.

My friend counſellor Reinhard has obſerved that the army is generally the hobby-horſe of the German princes. This I cannot ſay of his highneſs the duke of Strelitz; he has too much ſenſe to think of ſwelling himſelf beyond his natural ſtrength, and therefore is content to maintain ſuch a number of ſoldiers as he thinks ſufficient to guard his perſon, and preſerve the public tranquility. The military ſtate conſiſts only of five companies of foot, and one troop of life-guards, and a few huſſars. The men are all as fine-looking fellows as ever I beheld, well clad in blue after the Pruſſian manner, and trained to the ſame diſcipline. They go through their exerciſe every morning on the Parade, and it is a pleaſure to ſee how dexterouſly they perform their ſeveral manœuvres and evolutions.

The chief officer, colonel Cramm, is far advanced in years, ſo that he ſeldom comes to court. He is a worthy old gentleman, but very

very infirm. For his honour, bravery, and integrity, he is much reſpected both by the duke and thoſe under his command.

Major Rebeur is a gentleman near fifty, of a noble family, and French extraction. He is a portly handſome man, very affable and obliging. He ſerved long under the king of Pruſſia, and was reſpected for his abilities. The duke has lately taken ſeveral Pruſſian officers into his ſervice, and granted them great encouragement. Major Rebeur is made governor of New Brandenburg, where he behaves with prudence, and gives general ſatisfaction.

The duke has a very good band of muſic. The two women ſingers, Coghoen and Sonnen, are Italians, and excellent performers. They are both married to Germans. The former is allowed 500 crowns a year, the latter 300, with their board; the maſter of the chapel 400, the reſt 150 each. And ſince I am upon the article of ſalaries, I will give you thoſe of the military and civil officers; only I muſt put you once more in mind, that a dollar, in this country, goes as far as a pound ſterling in London.

	Dollars.
Colonel Cramm,	50 per menſ.
Major Rebeur	40
A captain	30
A lieutenant	18
An enſign	12
A ſerjeant	6
A corporal	5
A foot ſoldier	2 ½
Baron Zeſterfleth, marſhal of the court	2000 per ann.
Baron Dewitz, privy-counſellor,	2000
M. Jacobi, privy-counſellor,	1200
M. de Bulow, maſter of the horſe,	600
M. Seip, privy-counſellor,	1000
Counſellors of the Exchequer	800
Counſellor Reinhard	600
M. Siemſen	600
M. Gerling	500
Baron Genzkow, firſt gentleman of the bed-chamber,	600
Baron Boehmen	500
The gentlemen of the bed-chamber, each,	350
Body phyſician	400
Valets de chambre, each,	150
The rev. M. Maſch, ſuperintend.	1500
M. Gerling, paſtor of New Strelitz,	600
M. Egger, paſtor of Old Strelitz,	400
The expence of the duke's table is eſtimated at	24,000 per ann.

In

In my introduction to the Hiſtory of Vandalia, I have under-rated the revenues of the duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz, making them amount to no more than 250,000 rix dollars per annum. I am told here that they are 300,000; and baron Dewitz aſſures me, that in nine or ten years time the duke's revenue will in conſequence of the improvements now on foot be more than doubled.

I ſhall on another occaſion mention to you the ſeveral ſources from whence theſe revenues ariſe, when I come to enquire into the conſtitution and internal œconomy of the country. It is time now to put an end to this long letter; but leſt I ſhould forget, I will mention a word or two concerning ſome rules obſerved at court.

1. None but perſons of noble birth, or qualified by function or employment, are admitted to court. M. Reinhard, for example, and M. Verpoorten, are qualified as court counſellors; and all gentlemen of the army by their employment: but indeed of late none but the nobleſſe are raiſed to the degree of officers. The clergy are likewiſe admitted at this court, but not at that of Schwerin; yet they never ſay grace, this ceremony being always performed by a page in livery.

2. The wives of perſons qualified only by function or employment, are not admitted to court, unleſs they themſelves be of noble

deſcent. This is a great mortification to many worthy ladies, that their huſbands ſhall have the privilege of going to court, and the women be obliged to ſtay at home. For as there are no play-houſes in the town, all their diverſions ſeem to center in the concerts and aſſemblies held at court.

3. The times appointed regularly for concerts and aſſemblies, are Wedneſdays and Sundays, at ſix in the evening. For all over Germany, and indeed in moſt parts of Europe, whether Papiſts or Proteſtants, they look upon the ſabbath, how juſtly I will not pretend to ſay, as finiſhed after evening ſervice, and then they indulge themſelves in innocent recreations. The nobility of both ſexes come to court about ſix, when the concert begins, which laſts till nine. During the whole time they play at cards, ſeveral tables being ſpread for that purpoſe in the grand ſaloon. Sometimes there is a ball on thoſe nights, and then one part of the compan dances, while the other plays at cards.

4. Strangers of any diſtinction have the duke's coaches to wait upon them, all the time they ſtay here, for which they pay no other acknowledgment than a piſtole upon going away*; and the ſame is obſerved at other courts in Germany.

* This piſtole is for the coachman and livery-ſervants that wait upon ſtrangers.

And

And now I am upon the ſubject of courts, I ſhall conclude this long epiſtle with the following remarks of the count de B. on the moſt neceſſary qualifications of a courtier. "A courtier, ſaid he to me in a late converſation, ſhould above all things be civil, and ready to oblige. Civility conſiſts chiefly in behaving with decency or ſuitableneſs to character, and with affability or eaſineſs of acceſs. Decency is relative to voice, countenance, and dreſs. The voice ſhould not be raiſed too loud; the expreſſions ſhould be clear and elegant; the countenance frank and open; and the geſture eaſy and natural: in regard to dreſs, it ſhould not be ridiculouſly tawdry, but neat and handſome. Affability conſiſts in giving a kind reception to perſons who have buſineſs with us, and in ſhewing them a proper reſpect by external ſigns and compliments. A courtier ſhould endeavour to convince thoſe with whom he converſes, of his paying due attention to what they ſay. He ſhould always anſwer them with mildneſs and good temper, and avoid all raillery, eſpecially ſuch as leaves a ſting behind it. *Facetiæ quæ multum ex vero trahunt, acrem ſui memoriam relinquunt* †. Compliments form a part of affability: this kind of civility has its medium and extremes: care ſhould be taken to avoid all ſtrained ex-

† Tacit.

preſſions, and to uſe only ſuch as are adapted to the ſubject, and to perſons. A courtier ſhould ſhun all affectation, and appearance of vanity. He ſhould expreſs a deſire to oblige, eſpecially his inferiors, being the ſure way to conciliate their affection." The count added ſeveral other rules, which it would be tedious to mention; and upon my taking the liberty to obſerve, that I was ſurpriſed ſo accompliſhed a nobleman as himſelf had not been more ſucceſsful, he ſmiled, and ſaid, that the ſucceſs of courtiers is more owing to hazard than abilities, from the capricious diſpoſition of princes *. On which occaſion he mentioned an inſtance of the emperor Sigiſmund, who, in anſwer to an old courtier's complaining of the neglect of his long ſervices, ſhewed him two boxes, one of which was filled with gold, the other with lead, and bid him chuſe which he pleaſed for his reward: but unfortunately the poor gentleman pitched upon the box filled with lead; upon which the emperor told him, that he muſt no longer blame his prince but his ill fortune, in not meeting with the juſt recompence of his merit. The count then

* Here he quoted this paſſage of Tacitus: *Dubitare cogor fato naſcendi, ut cætera ita principum inclinatio in hos, offenſio in illos an ſit aliquid in noſtris conſiliis, liceatque inter abruptam contumaciam, & deforme obſequium pergere iter ambitione ac periculis vacuum.*

concluded,

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